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FORTIFICATIONS.

THAT, towards the close of a Session at once laborious and unproductive—full of excitement while destitute of results—Parliament should be discussing such a subject as the Fortifications question is indeed a fact of great and curious importance. Twenty years ago, any body proposing that we should spend millions in such a way would have been hooted; two or three years ago he would have been (at least a little) laughed at. Now the only real opposition to the project is from a clique. We may differ as to the mode of raising the money, and as to the mode of spending it; but the general truth that the money must be raised and spent finds no enemies amongst the wide public. Such a circumstance speaks volumes for the changed condition of Europe, and indicates, indeed, changes of many kinds in different departments of modern life.

We need hardly repeat what has often been said here of the political reason why Great Britain should be fortifying; but we cannot repeat too often that a political reason does exist. The European equilibrium is disturbed. An aspiring sword has been flung into the European balance. Changes of territory have been effected. Treaties have been violated. Promises have been broken. We attack nobody. We mention no names. Only, everybody now sees that the permanent security of peace is not what it was before '48. It may be that this results from circumstances too deep to be produced by individual ambition. It may be that more changes in Europe are inevitable, and that such ambition is only an agent of Fate in their accomplishment. But, whether or no, England must be safe. That in any storm she would be threatened is too clear; and it does not in the least matter how the storm is produced to the question of her being ready for it. The sailor knows that storms do good to the air somewhere; but he does not the less on that account neglect to provide that they should not injure him.

This is the whole gist of the matter, without personality, or national enmity, or anything else. Europe is disturbed, and England must be cautious—that is all.

There was, indeed, a time when a more immediate danger would not have seemed to require this kind of preparation. But that only brings us to recognise other changes more important, even, than political ones. Science and discovery have, once more, modified war. It is not the first time that they have done so; and we may remember, with satisfaction, that, last time they did so, England still retained the power of triumphing under the new conditions. Only we must

accommodate ourselves to such changes as they make, that our moral qualities may not be hampered by material deficiencies.

We all know the general nature of the change of which we are speaking. England has an equal power of making herself safe and formidable if she will only exercise it wisely. She cannot trust so entirely to her fleets as before—first, because of steam; and, secondly, because of the new growth of neighbouring navies. But she has warning on this point. The new kinds of attack can be prepared against, and the fleets can be increased beyond all rivalry, by dint of resolution and of a wise liberality of expenditure.

At present it is the first object that the country is discussing. Should a war break out several duties will devolve on us—to prepare against attack at home, to defend our property, floating and stationary, abroad. We are putting the case modestly; for, if we know the temper of the Navy as well as we think, a still earlier process would be a blow in anticipation of assault. But we waive this just now.

Well, we sympathise with a notion which is found in one part of the interesting Defences Blue-book, that a naval defence can be imagined strong enough to make the fortifications discussed this week superfluous. It lies in England, we quite believe, to shut up the Channel if so disposed, and so to harass an enemy's coast besides that he would grow sick of threatening aggression. But to attempt this would be to fling all our resources on one point, to drain our general marine element, and to run greater risks than a less pretentious policy would involve. Fortifications, in short, would be more profitable, by leaving some of our fleets free to range the world, and to feed and protect that commerce which would itself feed the war. We should require almost an impossible naval force if, in addition to this duty, we demanded from our Navy the protection of undefended towns at home now, when a few hours might bring down upon the coast a squadron, the immediate watchman of which was out of the way.

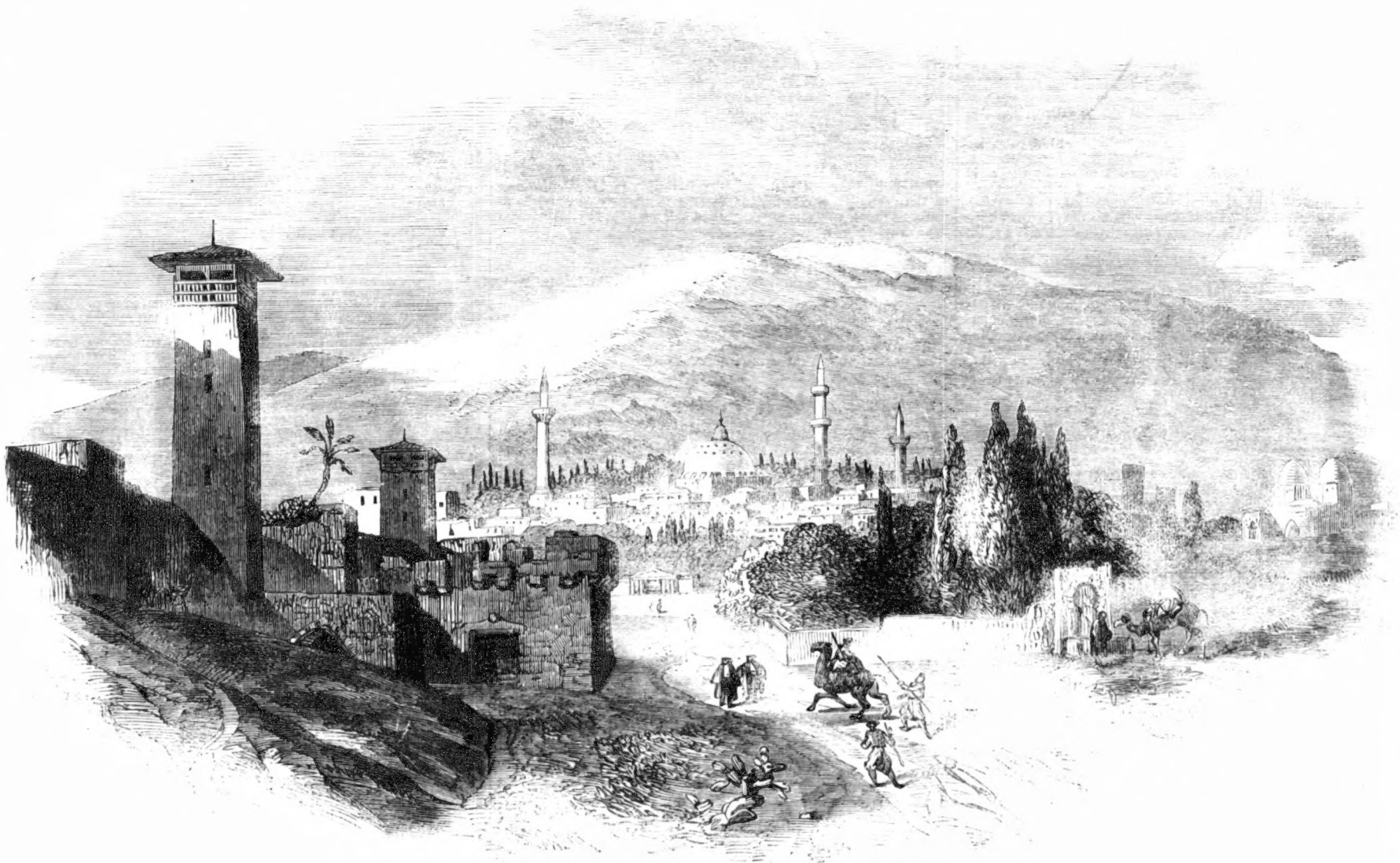
The Blue-book shows that this term "undefended" may not improperly be applied to places of vital consequence. Portsmouth, for example, is our greatest dockyard and arsenal. It is partially protected, no doubt; but it might be bombarded from the water, at long range, by vessels which its present fire could not reach. Or it might be attacked at a disadvantage from the Isle of Wight, itself by no means impregnable at present. Say, then, that we fought an action with our fleet, and gained it, the damage would compel the winning fleet to

refit; a second enemy might at once appear and do the mischief. But no enemy would be fool enough, if he could not reach the bombarding position without coming into a cross-fire from a couple of hundred guns. It is part of the Government proposal to place forts (on "the Horse," &c.) which would effect something like this against any squadron endeavouring to take up the place from which he could, if he reached it in safety now, shell Portsmouth Dockyard.

And here we may properly call attention to one point that is made in the evidence of naval officers—Crimean men—before the Defences Committee. Ordinary firing from forts need not stop a war-steamer resolutely pushing through their fire. This does not apply to the case just instanced; but it is used to show the importance of placing booms and so forth in positions of consequence. It is satisfactory to learn, by the way, in days when the French Navy is so much improved, that they neglect the surveying department of naval instruction and that their officers are seldom good pilots.

Portsmouth is as good an example as we could take of the necessity of fortifications. It would require two millions to defend it as the Committee recommends, and 25,000 men to garrison it and the Wight in case of attack. But when we consider how well Cronstadt paid by its safety for its fortifications, and that from our dockyards alone we could hope to repair disaster elsewhere, what matters the expense? We should not consider the expense, but the alternative, a bare possibility of which is to be provided against by all means.

If any part of the Committee's plan is to have precedence, if it be found necessary (as it has, perhaps, ere this) to carry out only portions of it, then the River and Portsmouth demand our first care. These are, beyond doubt, the quarters where permanent buildings are most needed. To defend the whole line of exposed coast is impossible. Sussex abounds in good landing-quarters, for example; and they are to be found, indeed, at intervals from Scarborough to Portsmouth. If, however, we free our squadrons from confinement at important vulnerable points, then they will range the line, and make a debarkation impossible. They are truly our first line of defence, and the island is inviolate till that is broken. But let us make that first line as strong as possible by having stone walls to back up the wooden ones, these lying behind both a third wall in the form of regulars, militia, and volunteers, well worthy of the other two. Against such a triple bulwark the thickest heads in the world may break themselves in vain.



VIEW OF DAMASCUS, THE SCENE OF THE RECENT MASSACRE OF CHRISTIANS.

DAMASCUS.

THE thirst for blood takes long to quench; and the news which we have so lately received of the massacre of the Christians in various parts of Syria now extends to Damascus, whence we are daily hearing of atrocities which must be opposed by very determined measures.

As Damascus, always one of the most interesting places in the world's history, is now the scene of events which have scarcely had a parallel since the time of Mohammed, we this week present our readers with an engraving of the remarkable city whose origin is almost lost in the mists of a remote antiquity, whose history has been bound up with the grand events which have moulded the destinies of the whole human race.

Situated on a plain at the eastern base of the Anti-Libanus range, Damascus is probably the oldest, and certainly the oldest existing, city in the world. Of its first building nothing is certainly known, although it has been ascribed both to Abraham and to his steward Eliezer. That it was famous even in the earliest history of mankind may be known from its being mentioned in Genesis xiv. and xv., while its history comprises the successive epochs in which it fell under the dominion of the Persians, the Greeks, and the Romans. The Turks became possessed of it in 1516, and retained it until 1832, when Ibrahim Pacha held it until his evacuation of Syria. The population of the city is about 112,000, of whom about 12,000 are Christians.

The city is about six miles in circumference, and is surrounded by a wall, now dilapidated. Standing on a plain of extraordinary fertility, with lovely gardens and orchards extending for a circuit of some fifty miles in a waving grove of oranges, lemons, citrons, pomegranates, mulberries, figs, plums, and almost every other fruit, watered by the crystal waters of the Barrada, the first appearance of Damascus is one of such exceeding beauty that travellers of all ages have used their choicest language in speaking of it. The interior of the city, however, is scarcely so magnificent as its environs would lead one to imagine; the streets being narrow and paved with basalt, with three divisions—the middle one being intended for cattle and riders. Indeed, in many parts—the Armenian quarter especially—the houses are constructed only of mud, pierced with a few small windows towards the street, while a putrid pool stands before each door. Strangely enough, however, they frequently have inside a quadrangle inclosing a marble-paved court, while trees, flowers, and fountains add their attractions to the scene. The furniture of the rooms, too, is often of the most splendid and costly description, the floors of cedar being covered with the carpets of Persia or Bagdad, while rich ornaments surround the apartments.

In the Moslem quarter the houses are larger and the streets cleaner, while the water supply is more abundant; but the Christians' and Jews' quarters are mostly squalid and miserable. The bazaars of Damascus are something like long streets—the principal one being some mile and a half in length, covered in with woodwork. For almost every particular description of merchandise there is a separate bazaar, and in the midst of them all there stands the immense cupola of the great Kkan, supported on its granite pillars, and built of alternate layers of black and white marble. This Khan is the Royal Exchange of Damascus, and the principal business of the city is transacted there. Besides this there are several smaller "khans," a fine mosque (originally a Christian cathedral), and three monasteries—the Franciscan, the Capuchin, and the Lazarist, the first of which possesses a fine library. The "straight" street mentioned in the Acts of the Apostles is one of the most important parts of the city, and about a mile in length. In all its details Damascus is one of the most purely Oriental cities in the world. Every street scene is a reminder of ancient events, and daily life there is but the repetition of a romantic page of early history. Persian, Jew, Egyptian, Greek, and Syrian, each with his national characteristic, meet in the ancient streets, and carry us back centuries into the past experiences of mankind.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

The Emperor was to have left Paris on Tuesday for the camp at Châlons; but he has now altered his mind, it seems. Prince Napoleon has arrived at Cherbourg.

The Session of the Corps Législatif was closed on the 20th.

The *Moniteur* contains the promulgation of the convention between the French and Belgian Governments in reference to the entry of wines and spirits into Belgium. According to this convention wines will pay in future an import duty of 31f. 50c. per hectolitre, and spirits of 50 degrees proof 59f. For every degree of proof above 50, spirits will pay 1f. 18c. in addition.

ITALY.

Letters from Rome state that General Goyon will leave that city on the 5th proximo.

A letter in the *Cologne Gazette* states that the Pope has refused to adopt any of the measures suggested by the French Minister, and has declared, if these changes are forced on him, he will abandon his States.

The Papal Government is kept in constant alarm by the rapid organisation of an army in Sicily. It is growing daily in numbers, and fast receiving supplies of all kinds—arms, provisions, and clothing. The rumour that Garibaldi had embarked with a strong force with the intention of landing on the Italian coast has increased the alarm of the Roman authorities.

The King of Sardinia received the Neapolitan Ambassadors on the 25th.

The *Opinion* says, relative to the alliance with Naples:—"We do not believe that negotiations have been commenced up to the present time. If overtures are made it may be predicted that, in view of the present state of things at Naples, they will not result in the conclusion of an alliance."

The Turin correspondent of the *Daily News* gives a rather humorous account of the reception of the Neapolitan Envoys on the 17th by Count Cavour:—

The two speakers did not begin their account until they had answered the Count's questions as to the confidence of the people and the patriotic sentiments of the army. With respect to the confidence, they said it was entire on the part of the people, now that they had seen turned out of office, the men who down to the last moment had ill-advised the King, and their places taken by undoubted Liberals. With respect to the army, they replied that it was well disciplined and obedient to its officers, that when some of these were changed it would be good, and devotedly attached to its country. After this, as I said above, the Envoys to speak for themselves, and beg for the alliance as between two constitutional countries, both of them equally Italian; but here they were interrupted by a messenger, who entered and brought a note to the Count. It was a telegraphic despatch; and, without saying a word, after reading it, Cavour handed it to his visitors. It was laconic enough:—"Naples. Collision between the people and the soldiers, because the people cried out, 'Italy for ever!' Firing on the people. Dead and wounded. Great agitation. Discontent. Foreigners leaving. Danger of pillage." If a hoghead of cold water had been unexpectedly emptied over the heads of the two poor Envoys they could not have been more scared. The confusion took away their breath.

PRUSSIA.

The Prussian Government has directed that in future all its military establishments are to be open to the inspection of any military officers of the other German States. In consequence of this order artillery officers in the service of Baden, Wurtemberg, Saxony, Hanover, and Hesse are now in Berlin examining the Royal cannon foundries and attending the practice of the Prussian field artillery.

AUSTRIA.

The Austrian Minister of Finance disapproved of the report of the financial committee of the enlarged Imperial Council on the Budget with regard to different points, and among others with their taking upon themselves to urge direct financial advice upon the Government. The Sovereign has not backed his Minister in this resistance to the demands of financial reform coming from the Imperial Council. In a

late sitting of the Imperial Council, an Imperial message was read notifying the Sovereign's resolution that the establishment of new imposts, or the increase of those already existing; the determining upon the amount of direct taxation, the imposition of excise dues, the introduction of stamp duties; and, finally, the conclusion of new loans, shall in future only be effected with the consent of the Council. Though this Council as yet cannot will be looked upon in the light of a representative body, the transfer of the right to impose taxes and contract loans from the Executive to the only legislative power which as yet exists in the empire is so serious a step in the direction of constitutional progress that the sincerity of the Austrian Government in attempting to place its authority on a new footing can no longer be doubted.

Disaffection continues to manifest itself in a very marked manner at Pesth.

RUSSIA.

A letter from St. Petersburg of the 16th in the *Debats* has the following:—

"I cannot describe to you the excitement which prevails in this capital in consequence of the accounts from Syria. The French and German journals which publish them are read with an avidity exceeding anything that you can imagine. The recital of the massacres, profanations, and atrocities which the Druses and the Turks have committed excites a feeling of complete fury. The upper classes are generally indifferent in matters of religion, but politics and national traditions have accustomed them to execrate everything Mohammedan. All are unanimous in banding with reprobation the cruelties of the Turks. Excited passions rise with a violence which I never should have expected. At this moment you would imagine that every Russian was a fanatic, which certainly is not the case, but the old hatred of the most sceptical so closely resembles fanaticism that one may easily be deceived. There is only one wish, or one cry—the Christians must be succoured; their barbarous oppressors be exterminated, outraged religion and humanity be avenged, and the Turks driven out of Europe. The army appears to feel this paroxysm of anger even more than the rest of the people, and this is more particularly seen at the camp of Krasnoe-Selo. When the Emperor arrives the acclamations, which have always been very warm and sincere, are now frantically enthusiastic, and no one can avoid seeing the signification of it. His Majesty appears to be very well satisfied at this, and the presents given to the troops have been more abundant than for a long time past. The army appears convinced that it is on the eve of war, and this idea gives it an ardour which strongly contrasts with the languor and carelessness which have been apparent during the three years which succeeded the peace."

AMERICA.

The whole Union is engrossed with the arrangements for the approaching election for the Presidency, ratification meetings of the several parties being the order of the day. President Buchanan attended the ratification meeting of Mr. Breckenridge, the Presidential candidate of the Southern Succession Convention, and spoke strongly in favour of that gentleman's candidature. From this we may infer that the influence of the Administration will be employed in favour of Mr. Breckenridge and against Mr. Douglas—a circumstance which may seriously impair the prospects of the latter.

The Post-office Department has arranged with Vanderbilt, probably on his own terms, for the transport of the Pacific mails, the service to begin on the 11th of July and continue to the 4th of March next.

The price of admission to the *Great Eastern* had been reduced to half a dollar for adults and to a quarter for children, and the result had been a large increase in the number of visitors. On the 10th instant 6000 persons visited the ship. An excursion to sea was talked about, but nothing definite was arranged.

The Hayes Arctic exploring expedition sailed from Boston on the 7th inst.

Justice McCall, of the United States' District Court in Admiralty at New Orleans, has ordered the restitution of the *Marques de la Habana* and the *Miramón* without the payment of costs. These are the vessels which were captured by the American squadron off Vera Cruz in March last, because pronounced pirates by the Juarez Government (so called) of Mexico.

INDIA.

THE Bombay mail brings us intelligence from that city to June 22. The native gentlemen of Bombay had manifested their respect for Sir Charles Trevelyan and their regret at his recall by holding a public meeting, at which an address to Sir Charles was adopted.

By this very circuitous route we receive news of an attack made by a French frigate upon Zanzibar, the African capital of the Imaum of Muscat's dominions. The Imaum, it is stated, had surrendered.

THE PRINCESS FREDERICK WILLIAM OF PRUSSIA.

THE Queen received by telegraph on Tuesday morning the intelligence of the confinement of her Royal Highness the Princess Royal and the birth of a Princess, which took place at ten minutes past eight o'clock that morning. The Princess Royal and infant Princess are doing well.

THE SAVOY CONFERENCE.

The Federal Council has received information that the Conferences on the neutrality of Switzerland will be indefinitely adjourned, as Austria absolutely refuses to take part in a Conference should Sardinia be admitted thereto.

NAPLES AND SICILY.

New disturbances have taken place at Naples. Ten police agents have been killed, and the street crowds shout for Garibaldi. That Chief left Palermo on the 21st with above 8000 men; and it was commonly believed that he would direct the expedition against the mainland. At a conference at Turin, on Sunday, it was decided that the King of Sardinia should send an Adjutant with an autograph letter to Garibaldi, requesting him not to attack the continental possessions of the King of Naples.

King Ferdinand is said to have ordered the complete evacuation of the island of Sicily. This was not done soon enough, we fear, to prevent a conflict near Messina. The Neapolitan General Bosco, it appears, has succeeded in effecting a junction with the garrison of Milazzo (near Messina), and before their united strength Garibaldi's Colonel Medici, who was intrusted with watching the enemy, fell back, and applied to the Dictator for reinforcements. Garibaldi sent him 2000 men; and there is a report that Medici has since occupied Milazzo.

Some of the officers of the Neapolitan Marine have taken the oath to the Constitution on condition of not being ordered to fight against Italians. Several officers of the Navy, Artillery, and of Engineers corps have tendered their resignations. The Army has taken the oath to the Constitution.

The regiments of the Royal Guard which misbehaved themselves on the 15th have been removed from Naples—a measure which is said to have given satisfaction to the people.

From Palermo it is announced that again have some of Garibaldi's Ministers resigned. Another story is that M. Orsini, having been charged by Garibaldi with organising the active army, has resigned the office of Minister of War, in which he is succeeded by General Sirtori, previously chief of the Staff.

The *Corriere Mercantile* of Genoa states that up to the present time the number of volunteers who have gone to Sicily from Northern and Central Italy amounts in all to 14,000.

We are informed that a Liverpool steamer, the *Ellen Vannin*, and four other steam-ships, have been seized by the Neapolitan Government. The cause assigned for the seizure is that the Government, having learned that Garibaldi had funds in the hands of Neapolitan agents, suspected that they were in treaty for the purchase of these vessels; and, accordingly, orders were issued to seize and detain them at Naples.

MEETING OF THE AUSTRIAN AND PRUSSIAN SOVEREIGNS.

THE Emperor of Austria, accompanied by his Premier and Foreign Minister, arrived on Tuesday at the place of meeting chosen by the Prince Regent of Prussia for the interview, the charming little watering-place of Toeplitz, in Bohemia, on the Saxon frontier. The Prince Regent arrived on Wednesday, and was received at the terminus by the Emperor. The little town was decked with flags: besides Austrian and Prussian ones, with those of Bavaria, Saxony, and other German States.

This meeting was brought about by the direct invitation of the Emperor of Austria, in reply to a letter of the Prince treating of the German question.

A letter from Berlin, dated the 20th instant, says:—"In liberal circles the interview between the Emperor of Austria and the Prince Regent of Prussia is looked forward to with some anxiety. The Prince Regent declared at Baden-Baden that, under all circumstances, Prussia would stand up with all her power for the integrity of Germany, and thus, doubtless, for the integrity of German Austria; and this the Prussian people fully approve. But they do not want to see the fate of Prussia connected with the fallen mixed provinces of the Austrian empire." This sentiment is generally echoed in the liberal press of Berlin.

THE BELGIAN FETES.

THE twenty-ninth anniversary of the inauguration of the national fêtes by King Leopold was celebrated at Brussels on Saturday last amid great rejoicing. Trades' processions, headed by bands of music, paraded the streets from an early hour in the morning. Te Deums were sung in the churches, the National Guards and Army were reviewed, a grand civic banquet was given in the Ducal Palace, and in the evening the whole city was brilliantly illuminated. At three o'clock deputations from the Chamber of Representatives, and from the provinces of Brabant, Anvers, and Flanders, were received by the King at the Palace, when addresses of congratulation were presented to his Majesty, strength."

The fêtes held in various portions of the country have all been distinguished by demonstrations of loyalty and nationality, and of strong anti-annexation feeling. At Charleroi, near the French frontier, the King's reception was even warmer and more noisy than elsewhere. The abolition of octrois all through the cities of Belgium, of which the Minister Frère is the chief author, has greatly added to the popularity of the Government. When the octroi-houses were taken down at Brussels the people carried the materials before the Royal Palace and made a bonfire of them, amidst continuous shouts of "The King for ever!" "Three cheers for Frère!" and singing of the "Brabançonne." As octrois are the rule in France, the measure was not quite without political bearing.

ADDRESS OF THE BELGIAN CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES TO THE KING.

SATURDAY was the twenty-ninth anniversary of the accession of the King of the Belgians;—the Chamber of Deputies accordingly presented an address to his Majesty—and a significant address too:—

Sire,—This day commences the thirtieth year of your reign. Receive the congratulations of the Chamber of Representatives. Once more it comes to express to you the national sympathies upon which, since a quarter of a century, your throne gloriously rests.

That long road happily traversed, our independence rendered fruitful and daily blessed, our manly liberties elevating the soul by the sentiment of right, and animating with an active vigour the whole social body, the gradual development of a prosperity previously unknown—all this generous toil accomplished with a mutual confidence, with the same loyalty, the same persistence, the same devotion to the general good—all this is what has for so many years united Belgium and her King. To destroy the tie it would be necessary to tear from our annals the life of a whole generation. Where is there to be found in the interior history of a people thirty years whose memory is more ineffaceable, and on which liberty, peace, and civilisation have more abundantly shed their benefits, or during which a more legitimate success has rewarded nobler labours?

Sire, after having risen and taken root amidst the difficulties of the past, ought the natural edifice to dread the storms of the future? Who shall hereafter think of shaking your popular throne on its well-tried foundations? Who shall conceive such a design, unless it be men light of mind and without a mission, of depriving a people which, without incurring any other, has known how to conquer so honourable a place among the best worthy of its name and of its very existence?

There are political crimes which enlightened nations have not to fear. In the centre of the civilisation of Europe, as she now is, Governments do not trample under foot all that the human conscience respects. In our day the blood of nations is not squandered to shield a throne which millions of men unanimously surround with their veneration and their gratitude. Attempts are not made to assassinate a nationality full of life, and strong in its good right, in universal esteem and in the solemn engagements of all Europe. If one day, Sire, it were possible that all the rights and duties which exist between Governments as between nations could be disregarded—if your crown, our liberties, our holy independence, and our native land, were menaced—Belgium, at the summons of the King, would know how to defend her national treasury as a free and virtuous people defends all that it holds most sacred. She has had long enough experience of foreign domination—long enough were her rights, her dignity, her riches, her rank, sacrificed to other interests than her own. Her head will never again bend beneath a yoke she detests and has for ever broken. In the hour of peril her courage will not remain isolated. The faith of treaties, the interest and independence of Europe, are not vain words. A cause to which no honest men of any country can remain indifferent will never be in danger of perishing or of lacking defenders.

The address was adopted by the Assembly amidst vehement applause.

The following was the King's answer:—

Gentlemen,—There can be no finer or more noble spectacle than the unanimity of a people in its love of country. This spectacle you to-day present, and I am deeply touched by it. For a nationality to be solidly established, it must respond not only to the interests but also to the sentiments and habits of a nation, and must offer it the political and social elements which have been at all times the object of its wishes. An impartial examination of the state of the country will prove that it has obtained what it so long had desired. It enjoys liberty combined with public order, security united with the most scrupulous legality; it has made the most remarkable progress in the sciences, arts, and in industry, and at the same time its wealth, so admirably developed, is, for the first time, exclusively reserved to its children.

History teaches us that our beautiful provinces have often been the cause of great wars. More than any other part of Europe they have been watered with the blood of nations, without the question of their political position having been fully decided. In presence of these ever-recurring difficulties Europe thought that, by intrusting your existence to yourselves, the aim—often missed—might be attained. To your great honour you have resolved the question; the task confided to you by Europe has been fulfilled. You thus find yourselves in the best relations with all the Powers, and more especially with those whose neighbours you are. Strong in these honourable results of our independent existence, let us hope that Divine Providence will continue to us its protection; and let us never forget the motto this country has chosen for its own, that "It is union that constitutes strength!"

THE POPE'S IRISH RECRUITS.—A Paris letter in the *Indépendance Belge* affirms that General Lamoricière continues to have such trouble with his Irish brigade that he has lately been obliged to send away 100 more of them, and that he had even shot several. A former batch of discharged Irishmen, 120 in number, arrived lately at Marseilles, in a state of great misery. The Consul there had no choice, in pursuance of his orders, but to treat them as strangers, they having forfeited their nationality by taking foreign service, with their eyes open, in spite of all warnings. There was a talk at Marseilles of sending some of them over to Algeria as labourers.—The Dublin papers give a deplorable account of the arrival in that city of a batch of the Pope's Irish recruits, who, it seems, have returned to the old land much sadder, if not wiser, men than when they embarked in their previous wild-goose chase after fame in the service of a hard taskmaster.

THE KING OF PRUSSIA.—The malady of the King is said to have become sensibly worse lately. The physical pains from which his Majesty has been suffering have rather decreased, but the mental derangement has become greater than ever before. The King is now said to be under the influence of visions and hallucinations of a fearful nature. Sometimes at night he will start up from his couch, and, addressing the imaginary spirits around him, will fill the air with his cries; at another time he will sit for whole days and nights in a state of complete torpor, taking no refreshment and uttering no sound.

THE CIVIL WAR IN SYRIA.

The Syrian massacres have again brought the Emperor of the French to the surface of European politics. On the 21st we received the following telegram from Paris:—

"The French consular reports received from Syria state that the massacres which have taken place are the result of a conspiracy of the Mussulman fanatics. The report having spread among the Druses that European diplomacy was about to drive away the Turks from Europe, they determined on exterminating the Christians in Syria. The French Consuls, therefore, state that the Porte will be unable to repress a rising which has been organised in its own favour. Under these circumstances the Emperor of the French has declared that, although inviting the Powers who have signed the treaties of the 30th of March, 1859, to give their concurrence for an efficacious protection of the Christians in Syria, France on her own account will never fail in her mission of humanity, and is resolved upon immediately sending an armed expedition to Syria."

Accordingly, orders were sent to Toulon to embark at once some 8000 or 9000 men—to wit, 2000 marines and three regiments of infantry, two battalions of artillery, and three squadrons of cavalry from the Châlons camp. Reinforcements were to follow from Marseilles and Algiers with the shortest possible delay; and, in all, the expedition was to consist of about 25,000 men.

It seems that the English Government had previously agreed that the Powers ought to co-operate in arresting the effusion of blood in Syria, and so had Austria and Russia; but whether they concurred in France taking the whole matter into her own hands is another thing.

However, a recent announcement has somewhat changed the aspect of affairs. The Porte has instructed its Ambassadors at Paris and London to officially communicate to the Courts of the Tuileries and St. James the conclusion of peace between the Druses and Maronites on the 10th instant. In this official communication the Porte, although expressing its satisfaction at this happy event, adds that it will nevertheless pursue with the utmost rigour the authors of the recent massacres, and that Fuad Pacha had to that end been invested with the most ample powers, not only to punish the guilty parties, but also to take such measures as would prevent a recurrence of fresh conflicts between the Druses and the Maronites.

As soon as the rumour of this armistice was heard in Europe the *Constitutionnel* came out with an article casting doubt upon it, and expressing a hope "that Europe will not thus allow a sponge to be passed over the blood of Christians, and suffer all that has passed to be thus hushed up." In a subsequent article the same journal says:—"The expedition which France has been preparing for the last three days with marvellous dispatch will, as a matter of necessity, be carried out. The early departure of our troops may be expected. The part of France will be neither that of occupation nor intervention. We are about to give our support to Turkey to assist her in repressing disorders which would infallibly result in the loss of the Turkish empire. The Eastern question, as it at present stands, does not appear to be susceptible of dividing Europe; but, on the contrary, of uniting the European Powers for the defence of interests and principles which impose the same obligations on all the Christian States."

It seems that the French Government intended, or intends, to give Abd-el-Kader a high military command in Syria. He is to receive the cross of the Legion of Honour for his exertions to allay the outbreak.

A Dutch squadron, composed of three steam-frigates, which were anchored in Malta harbour, have received orders to proceed immediately to Beyrout. It may be remembered that the Dutch Vice-Consul at Damascus was one of the first victims of the massacres.

The news from Syria itself represents the situation of affairs as still very grave, though no further outbreak had occurred lately. The *Constitutionnel* of the 25th says ten thousand Druses were marching on Damascus. Fuad Pacha was expected at Beyrout on the 20th. Letters from that town announce the arrival of an Egyptian frigate from Alexandria, having on board a supply of provisions and other articles of all kinds which might be useful for the Christian refugees.

The Turkish reinforcements sent to Syria are said not to exceed 6000 men, as it is not possible to withdraw the troops from Roumelia on account of the agitation prevailing there.

Sir Henry Bulwer has received a telegram from London, and immediately had a long conference with the Sultan.

A gentleman who has been twenty years in the country has published a long letter in the *Times*, giving an account of the origin of the bloodshed. He throws the blame, in the first place, on the Christians of the Lebanon, who, he says, commenced the war; and, in the second place, on the Turks, who, by cowardice and treachery, allowed the Christians at Deir-el-Kamar to be massacred.

ENDERS OF THE MUTINY.—The following is an extract from a letter from an officer at Muttra, dated the 12th of June, 1859:—"About a month ago young Jennings went down to join Mayne's Horse, an irregular cavalry corps raised for service in Central India, at Goonah. We were very much shocked two days ago at seeing a telegram from that place saying he had been shot dead in an attack on a body of rebels at Bundelcund while gallantly leading on his men. . . . His father and sister were massacred at Delhi at the very commencement of the mutiny in May, 1857, in the King's Palace, and excited great commiseration at the time, as Miss Jennings was a pretty young girl, and was engaged to be married. Young Jennings volunteered to go out with a party of Mayne's Horse that was sent after the rebels, as he said he wished to avenge the death of his father and sister. He was always lamenting, too, when with us, that he had never had an opportunity of fighting against them. He behaved with great gallantry, and cut down four men with his own hand. He was shot through the heart, and had his throat cut in two places, which looks as if his men must have hung back, although they did cut up the man who killed him. This sad event was altogether so unexpected that it has cast a regular gloom over the whole station. No one dreamt of there being mutineers down there, but it really appears as if they would never be exterminated. We are, of course, going to put up a tablet to the memory of the poor fellow."

LORD BROUGHAM AND MR. DALLAS.—It will be remembered that at the opening of the International Statistical Congress Lord Brougham called upon Mr. Dallas to the fact that one of the delegates was a man of colour, in a manner which seemed offensive both to Mr. Dallas and to the delegate from the United States. At a subsequent meeting of the Congress Lord Brougham made the following explanation:—"I exceedingly regret that the observations I made on the first day have been interpreted into something disrespectful to the United States. No one who has known me will accuse me of such an intention. I respect our brethren of the United States, even when I differ from them. When I called attention, in the presence of our friend Mr. Dallas, to the (in my opinion) important statistical fact that a most respectable coloured gentleman from Canada was a member of the Congress I only called his attention to it just as I would the attention of our excellent friend the representative of the Brazils, who is here to-day; and, God knows, I do not entertain the slightest disrespect for the Brazils! I ought also to have called the attention of the Count de Ripaldi (the Spanish representative) to the same subject. They have colonies, and they have persons of various colours in their possessions. I call his attention to it hereby."

MUTINY AND ATTEMPTED MURDER.—The schooner *Crown*, of Bideford, was on a voyage from the Thames to Cardiff, and was pursuing her way down Channel on the 23rd, when, about eleven o'clock at night, three of the crew made a sudden attack upon the captain with the evident intention of murdering him. Having dealt him some fearful blows on the head with an iron pin, rendering him insensible, they seized the mate and lashed him to the mast. They then robbed the captain of his money (£8 10s.) and a gold watch, and, taking to the ship's boat, made off. The schooner was afterwards taken in with, and got into Brixham, when the particulars of the daring act and a description of the men were forwarded to various places on the coast. Information has since been received of the finding of the boat near Beer, some thirty miles higher up the coast, but the men had decamped.

THE INCREASE OF DUTY ON BRITISH SPIRITS.—Since the increase of duty on British spirits of 1s. 11d. per gallon the publicans have held meetings in various parts of the metropolis. At most of these meetings they came to a resolution to increase the price of spirits a penny per quart. This additional amount of one penny per quart makes exactly 2s. 8d. per gallon, which will give the publican an extra profit of 9d. per gallon. So that, instead of labouring under a grievance, they are actually the gainers. In other cases the publicans announce that they do not mean to raise the price of spirits, but it is no secret that they intend to lower the strength of it, so that in either case the public suffer a loss.

IRELAND.

DEMINUTION OF CRIME IN IRELAND.—The assizes now nearly over throughout Ireland are remarkable for the very considerable diminution of crime. In the county of Antrim, one of the largest in Ireland, there were only three custody cases. The other counties of Ireland where assizes have been already held show gratifying results similar in kind. In Armagh, disgraced the other day by the Lurgan riots, the calendar—not including, of course, these very recent offences—was so light as to simply give the Judge the pleasant task of congratulating the grand jury. In Monaghan, another northern county, Judge Ball had to announce to the grand jury that "there were but two prisoners, and those for petty larcenies." At the Roscommon Assizes there were only seven for trial, and the heaviest of these was a case of manslaughter arising out of a drunken fray; the whole of the cases were disposed of in half a day. In Clare Judge Hayes announced only four prisoners for trial, and only one serious case among them. In Meath the Lord Chief Justice said, "The calendar is perfectly free from agrarian crime." In Limerick Baron Fitzgerald, addressing the county grand jury, said, "It is very gratifying to find that in such an extensive county there are only seven cases for trial, and only one of magnitude." At the city of Limerick Assizes there was no criminal business, and Judge Hayes received a present of "white gloves" from the High Sheriff. At Wexford Mr. Justice O'Brien had a light task; he had only "a few words" to address to the grand jury, and, though the two only cases were both technically manslaughter, one was in fact more like a police case of furious driving. Mr. Justice Keogh told the King's County grand jury that "no crime had been committed since the last assizes," and there were but four bills sent up, old cases remaining over. In Westmeath the same Judge again congratulated a grand jury and declared that "there never was so little agrarian outrage in the county." In the extensive county of Down Judge Ball found that "substantially the cases on the calendar were reduced to three." In Wicklow the Lord Chief Baron said, "The calendar is very light, and there are only two cases, neither of which will take much time." In Leitrim Mr. Sergeant Howley told the grand jury that "there were only two cases, the most important of which was a charge of maliciously killing a goat," and the learned Sergeant added, "I am bound to congratulate you on the very peaceful state of your county, which is a credit to you, gentlemen." We might add to these extracts, but we have given enough.

WHOLESALE POISONING BY ACCIDENT.—The water in the Tralee Canal having been emptied, a woman picked up some mussels at the bottom of the basin. She distributed them among her neighbours, and during the night twenty-one persons who had eaten of them were attacked with symptoms of poisoning. Three children have died, some half-dozen more continue dangerously ill, but the remainder are considered out of danger.

THE LURGAN RIOTS.—The investigation at Lurgan was concluded on Friday (the 20th). Nine of the persons charged were returned for trial at the March Assizes, 1860, at Armagh. Bail was refused. Nine others were also returned for trial, but were admitted to bail in £20, and two sureties of £10 each. Nine more were ordered to give security for their appearance at the assizes. —At the Belfast Assizes on Thursday (the 19th) the Solicitor-General made a public statement announcing the determination of the Government to put the Processions Act in force with rigour, and to punish all persons engaged in party demonstrations, to whatever political or religious denomination they might belong, and whether they took part in a procession or violently attacked it. A telegram from Belfast announces that Judge Fitzgerald had sentenced the Orangemen who pleaded guilty of an illegal procession to six months' imprisonment. The Roman Catholics who pleaded guilty of a riot in interfering with the procession were sentenced, the leader to four months' and the others to three months' imprisonment.

THE GREAT CAMPDEN CONTROVERSY.—The pecuniary squabble between Mr. John Pope Hennessy and a Cork attorney, who acted for Lord Campden in his raid upon the county of Cork, has been amicably adjusted by treaty, and all further hostilities suspended *sine die*. The terms of the treaty are thus set forth in the *Cork Examiner*:—"The action brought by Alderman McCarthy, of this city, against Mr. John Pope Hennessy, M.P., for the balance of expenses incurred in behalf of Lord Campden at the recent election, having been referred, at the request of Mr. Hennessy, to the arbitration of the Right Rev. Dr. Leahy, Bishop of Down, the O'Donoghue, M.P., and Mr. John O'Hagan, of the Munster Circuit, was decided on Friday last by an award in favour of Alderman McCarthy of £1000 (the full amount claimed by him), with costs of cause, of arbitration, and of award."

THE PROVINCES.

PAINFUL CASE OF REVERSE OF FORTUNE.—A man named Higginson, aged sixty-seven, was sentenced at Warrington last week to be imprisoned for one month, with hard labour, for stealing a whitewashing-brush. The prisoner, who cried bitterly, pleaded extreme destitution. It appears that forty years ago he was the reputed heir to a considerable property, and obtained possession of it. At that time he presented the town with a fire-engine, which is still in use, and which cost £150. Subsequently it was discovered that his claim to the property was not valid, and he was dispossessed of it. He then disappeared from the neighbourhood, and returned only a few weeks ago, when he was in a very wretched plight.

DEATH FROM LIGHTNING.—A labourer named Neptune, employed at some locomotive works, Leeds, was engaged picking away at some rubbish with a pickaxe when the electric fluid struck him and killed him on the spot. When his companions went up to his body his clothes were being consumed by fire, the flames generated by the subtle current. His clothes had been cut away clearly as with a knife from the front part of his body; his whiskers were singed off his cheeks, and the hair from his breast, and his eyes were staring vacantly. No discoloration of the body had taken place. The cart, which was being laden with rubbish, stood immediately underneath the bank on which Neptune was killed, and leaning against the shaft was another workman named John Hardy. He, too, was struck by the lightning, but in a milder degree. The current temporarily paralysed his right arm and ran down his right side, but he is now recovering.

CHILD-MURDER.—A very painful sensation has been created in the neighbourhood of Methy Tydvil in consequence of the discovery of the body of a female child in a pool of the Taff River, under circumstances leaving no doubt that it had been inhumanly murdered. The police not having been successful in tracing out the perpetrator of the shocking crime, the jury returned a verdict of "Wilful murder against some person or persons unknown."

MURDER OF A WOMAN IN KENT.—John Grainger, a man about forty years of age, was charged, at Maidstone, on Saturday, with having wilfully caused the death of Cordelia Corvill, a woman with whom he lived. According to the evidence adduced it would appear that the prisoner's jealousy was aroused by finding the woman, who had absented herself, in the company of another man. This led to the ill-usage of the woman by himself. He acknowledged to knocking her down, kicking her, and otherwise ill-treating her. When she became seriously ill he gave her brandy, and, finding her in a dying state, he went to a surgeon and expressed to him his intention of giving himself up to justice for killing his wife. The post-mortem examination that was held went to prove that she had come by her death by violence, and had received kicks and other injuries—the actual cause of death being the rupture of one of the larger vessels of the brain. The prisoner was committed for trial for manslaughter.

ALLEGED MATRICIDE.—A very painful charge of manslaughter was the subject of a trial at the Lewes Assizes on Tuesday. A young man who is a member of the medical profession accidentally gave his mother an overdose of prussic acid—a drug which she was in the habit of taking as a remedy for a complaint from which she was suffering. The prisoner was devotedly attached to his mother, and was overwhelmed with grief at her untimely end. The jury brought in a verdict of "Not guilty."

DESTRUCTIVE THUNDERSTORMS.—Several severe storms of thunder and lightning occurred during the past week in the West Riding of Yorkshire. At Mexborough several cottages were shattered by the electric fluid and a number of sheep killed. The Wesleyan chapel at Ecclefield was struck and much damaged by lightning. The same storm appears to have extended to Leeds, where a man was struck dead, his clothes being ripped to pieces and set on fire.

THE COVENTRY WEAVERS.—There are now more than 20,000 weavers out of work in the neighbourhood, and there does not appear to be any likelihood of an adjustment of those "prices" which form the foundation of the present unhappy "strike." The manufacturers continue to repudiate the price-list for which the operatives contend, and the "French Treaty" is pretty generally blamed for having compelled them to take this course by the admission of foreign fabrics into England duty free. There has been an increase of 74 per cent of French silks and ribbons during the three months since the treaty came into operation, and this increased competition has, of course, affected our markets—more particularly that of Coventry, which has both plain and fancy goods. A deputation, appointed to examine into the state of the foreign silk trade, has just returned from France with a report of the process of manufacture abroad, which may prove of some service to the English weaver.

THE AGAPEMONE.—Vice-Chancellor Stuart gave judgment on Wednesday in the Agapemone case. He expressed his opinion that Prince, by pretending that he had a Divine commission, had induced Miss Notledge to transfer to him her property, and he, therefore, held that the gift was entirely vitiated. He adjudged that the stock should be transferred to the plaintiff as the legal personal representative of the deceased, and that all the dividends which have accrued from it since her death should be paid to the plaintiff.

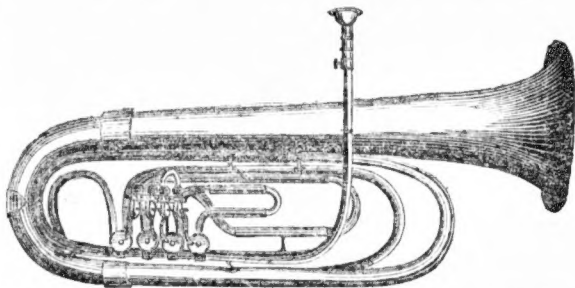
OPERA AND CONCERTS.

The season is now so nearly at an end that but for the farewell performances of Mme. Grisi at Covent Garden and a solitary representation of "Rigoletto" at the same house there would be really nothing to notice at either of the Operas. Nor do the adieux of Mme. Grisi excite quite so much interest as might have been expected by those who forget that this is neither the first nor the second time of the ex-diva taking leave of her admirers for ever. On Thursday this falling star ("L'étoile qui file") would, perhaps, be a more appropriate expression) was to have played Norma for the last time—the only part in which she shows herself, here and there, as great a vocalist as ever; as an actress she never was greater than she is now. "Lucrezia Borgia" and the "Huguenots," with Mme. Grisi as Lucrezia and as Valentine, have also been given for the last time. The last Wednesday evening concert at the Royal Italian Opera consisted of a miscellaneous selection and of Gluck's "Orfeo e Euridice." In the former portion of the entertainment the most noticeable pieces were the overture to "Oberon," executed magnificently by Mr. Costa's band, and the "Oath of Liberty" from "William Tell," given with great effect by Tamberlik, Polonini, Tagliafico, Fauré, &c. The performance of "Orfeo" was in all respects admirable. Not only was the execution better than at either of the three preceding representations of this work, but deeper and more earnest attention was paid to it by the audience, who, if "Orfeo" were given half a dozen times, would probably feel something like enthusiasm for Gluck's music. The production of "Rigoletto" was chiefly remarkable for the success with which Mme. Miolan-Carvalho sustained the part of Gilda, the most trying part that can be given to a singer at the Royal Italian Opera, for the simple reason that it was the happiest of Mme. Bosio's always happy impersonations. According to the *Times*, it was said of Mme. Loti last year (by a sapient person whose name has unfortunately not been made public) that in the character of Gilda she did not make us forget Mme. Bosio. Nor, adds the *Times*, does Mme. Carvalho make us forget Mme. Bosio, but in many scenes of Rigoletto she absolutely recalls her. This is a graceful and well-deserved compliment; for Mme. Carvalho has really many of the qualities which rendered Mme. Bosio's Gilda so peculiarly fascinating. She has the same artlessness, the same girlish appearance, the same confiding air, and, as to singing, the same perfect method, though with a less beautiful voice.

THE CRYSTAL PALACE BRASS BAND CONTEST,

JULY 10 AND 11.

In our list of the prizes distributed at the above contest we omitted to mention the two most important ones, given by Messrs. Boosey and Sons, the well-known musical instrument manufacturers and music publishers, of Holles-street. The first consisted of a very fine



Euphonium, or Solo Bass, handsomely electroplated, with gilt bell, value thirty guineas, presented to the best solo bass player. The second consisted of a set of Boosey's Brass Band Journal, in sixteen volumes, value twelve guineas, presented to the band winning the first prize on the second day's contest.

DEFECTS OF THE FRENCH NAVY.—The Paris correspondent of the *Guardian* reports a speech of the Vicomte de Kervéguen, who would seem to be a French Sir Charles Napier in the way of exposing real or alleged shortcomings in naval affairs:—"After exposing many abuses and hardships in the system of pay and pensions and the personnel of the service, he attacked the matériel itself. He asserted that all the French ships of the line were too low in the water, and could not fight their lower tier of guns, even in a slight breeze. The American and English navies had now adopted an infinitely superior mode of construction. The *Brigantine*, so superb a ship to look at, had one tier almost under water; it was so, in fact, when first launched, until artificially raised, and even now the lower ports were almost always obliged to be kept shut. The vessel had cost £240,000, and had an engine of 1200-horse power. But she burnt 120 tons of coal per day, and had only stowage for 400, which rendered her steam-power next to useless. Five or six other ships of the line, which he named, were fitted with engines of such unequal powers that it was impossible they could ever combine their movements with any effect. An engine of 500-horse power could never keep pace with one of 1200. Six first-rate frigates had been constructed, which the speaker also named. The machines were too heavy, the vessels sank too deep, were slow when they steamed, and incapable of sailing. Each had cost £120,000. The *Souveraine* was especially bad. When tried at Cherbourg for Admiral Lamoignon, who was going to the South Seas, it was found she could only sail, and the Admiral was obliged to take the *Duquesne-Trois* ship of the line instead. The *Souveraine* was declared unfit for navigation. The *Impératrice Eugénie* was obliged to have her screw changed, and when a commission was sent to try her the concussion was found to be so great that in three days she would be shaken to pieces. The old screw was then replaced, with no better result. 'All this was deplorable.' The duty of constructing vessels was given to engineers who had never been to sea. Ten frigates are all begun at once on the same model, and if one prove a failure all the rest are so. The frigates *blindes* M. de Kervéguen also pronounced to be 'failures.' They were made to carry 350 men, thirty-six guns, four months' water, and fifteen days' coal; but they would only carry twelve guns and four days' coal; and a naval commission had decided that they should only take 100 charges per gun instead of 400, so that after a combat of three hours' duration they would be short of ammunition. The gun-boats were equally bad and unsafe. He had seen four nearly lost at Cadix because they were such bad sea-boats. The new double-decked transports for China cost as much as ships of the line, and yet carried only four guns, and must be laid up in time of war as incapable of defending themselves. The speaker saw no inconvenience in mentioning these things openly, because every English Consul knew them, and kept his Government *au courant* with what was going on. The Government Commissioner, General Allard, made a very indifferent defence to this attack, complaining of its 'unexpectedness,' and able, seemingly, to deny only one fact—viz., that of the *Brigantine* having been artificially floated. The Government was evidently very much discomfited by the exposure, as all Governments are apt to be on such occasions. It may serve, perhaps, to allay the foolish panics which render ourselves so ridiculous on this side of the water."

A FIGHT FOR A MARQUIS.—The guardians of the Marquis of Bute are carrying on a contest at law to decide who is to have charge of him during his minority. The Marquis is now a young lad of thirteen. His father and mother are dead, and the Court of Chancery appointed General Stuart, his nearest paternal relative, and Lady Elizabeth Moore, a friend of his mother, to the office of co-guardians. Lady Elizabeth brought the boy to London, where the Court of Chancery decreed a scheme of education; but, differing from General Stuart, she removed the young Marquis to Scotland, beyond Chancery jurisdiction. General Stuart afterwards proceeded to Edinburgh to ask the custody of the ward, which Lady Elizabeth refused to give; the General then applied to the Court of Chancery to remove Lady Elizabeth from the guardianship, and the Court granted an order accordingly. But, the ward being now beyond the jurisdiction of the Court of Chancery, General Stuart, with the concurrence of Lady Keith Murray, aunt of the Marquis, petitioned the Court of Session to grant a warrant for the removal of the ward from the custody of Lady Elizabeth Moore, and for his delivery to himself. The petition was refused, and thus the Court of Chancery and the Court of Session are in opposition.

HER MAJESTY'S HOLIDAYS.—It is thought that her Majesty will leave Osborne on the 4th of August, to commence the usual journey northwards. The Royal arrangements for the autumn are rather earlier than usual; and it is said that the six weeks in the Highlands will be curtailed to about a month. It is understood that the Queen will proceed direct to the Continent from Scotland, and reach Prussia in the early part of September. After this visit to Berlin the Queen and Prince Consort will pay a visit to Coburg and stay some days with the Duke and Duchess.

VICE-ADMIRAL JAN SCHRODER, CHIEF OF THE PRUSSIAN MARINE DEPARTMENT.

This distinguished man is a native of Holland, and was born at Flushing in the year 1800. At a very early period of life he entered the Dutch Navy, and served in various parts of the world, especially in the waters of the Dutch East Indian possessions. In the year 1816 he commanded the man-of-war *De Rijn*, under the flag of Prince Henry of the Netherlands.

About this time Schröder received a communication from the Prussian Government proposing that he should enter the naval service of Prussia. He was offered the post of Director of Navigation, with the command of the corvette *Amazon*, then the only ship of war possessed by Prussia. Schröder entered into an agreement to serve for three years as Director of Navigation, with the understanding that he should hold military rank equal to that of a captain in the navy in the event of his accepting permanent service under the Prussian Minister of War.

He entered upon his duties in the Prussian service in the year 1818, at the time when it was determined to commence the formation of a German fleet at Frankfort-on-the-Maine, and when the Prussian War Minister commenced measures for the defence of the Baltic coasts. The determination of the Prussian Government to create a war navy of its own caused Schröder to be permanently fixed in the service of Prussia; he accepted an appointment bearing the title of Commodore, a rank corresponding with something between that of Colonel and Major-General. This rank qualified him to take part in the conferences held at Frankfort-on-the-Maine, under the presidency of Prince Adalbert of Prussia, for the purpose of regulating the affairs of the German navy. On the renewed outbreak of the war with Denmark in 1849, Schröder was appointed to the supreme command of the whole naval war forces of Prussia. The triumphant issue of an engagement between the armed steamer *Preussische Adler* and a Danish ship of war obtained for Schröder the order the Red Eagle of the third class.

After the establishment of an independent central authority (under the name of Admiralty) for superintending the business of the Prussian navy Commodore Schröder was, on the 9th of May following, appointed to the command of the naval station of the Baltic. His advancement to the ranks of Rear-Admiral and Vice-Admiral followed in close succession, and on the 6th of April last he was appointed to the post of Chief of the Prussian Marine Department.

THE ISLAND OF MILO.

MILO, or Melos, one of the larger Cyclades in the Aegean Sea, is about seventy miles north of the coast of Crete, and sixty-five east of the coast of Peloponnesus. It is fourteen miles long from east to west, and its breadth is about eight miles. Its northern coast is indented by a deep bay, which forms a natural harbour—one of the best and safest in the Levant. The surface of the island is mountainous and of volcanic formation; it abounds in hot mineral springs and mines of sulphur and alum. The plains are fertile, and, without much labour bestowed upon them, produce abundance of fruit, wine, oil, and pasture for cattle. The population, which in the time of Tournefort (a century since) was above 20,000, has so decreased that it does not now average more than 7000.

Besides the chief town, called also Milo, which is in the east part of the island, near the port, there are several villages, the most important of which is Castro, built on the summit of a rock that appears almost inaccessible.

Melos is said to have been colonised first by the Phœnicians, and afterwards by the Lacedæmonians. During the Peloponnesian War the Athenians sent an armament to reduce it, under the command of

Nicias, the son of Niceratus; but the attempt failed. Some years later in the war a new expedition from Athens landed on the island, and, after a siege of several months, took the town of Melos, when the Athenians put to death all the adult males, and carried away the women and children as slaves, after which a colony of Athenians was sent to occupy the place. At a later period Melos, like the other Greek islands, became subject to Rome, and afterwards to the Byzan-

near us was of a deep leaden hue, owing to clouds overhead." Mr. Thompson, Master of H.M.S. *Himalaya*, made the following telescopic observations:—"Totality commenced at 2h. 52m. 55s., when prominences were visible, one on the west and two on the east, of a bright lurid lake colour, followed by the corona shooting out, on the east of the sun, in two forked tongues. The colour of the corona was white, darting outwards. Towards the end of totality another promi-

ne Emperors, the Venetians, and the Turks. It now forms part of the new kingdom of Greece.

Near the great harbour there are some very extensive remains of the ancient capital, Melos. The amphitheatre, the Cyclopean walls, a temple of Venus, and numerous subterranean galleries, are perhaps the most remarkable vestiges of this once renowned city. The celebrated statue of the Milo Venus was found here, and is now treasured in the Louvre at Paris.

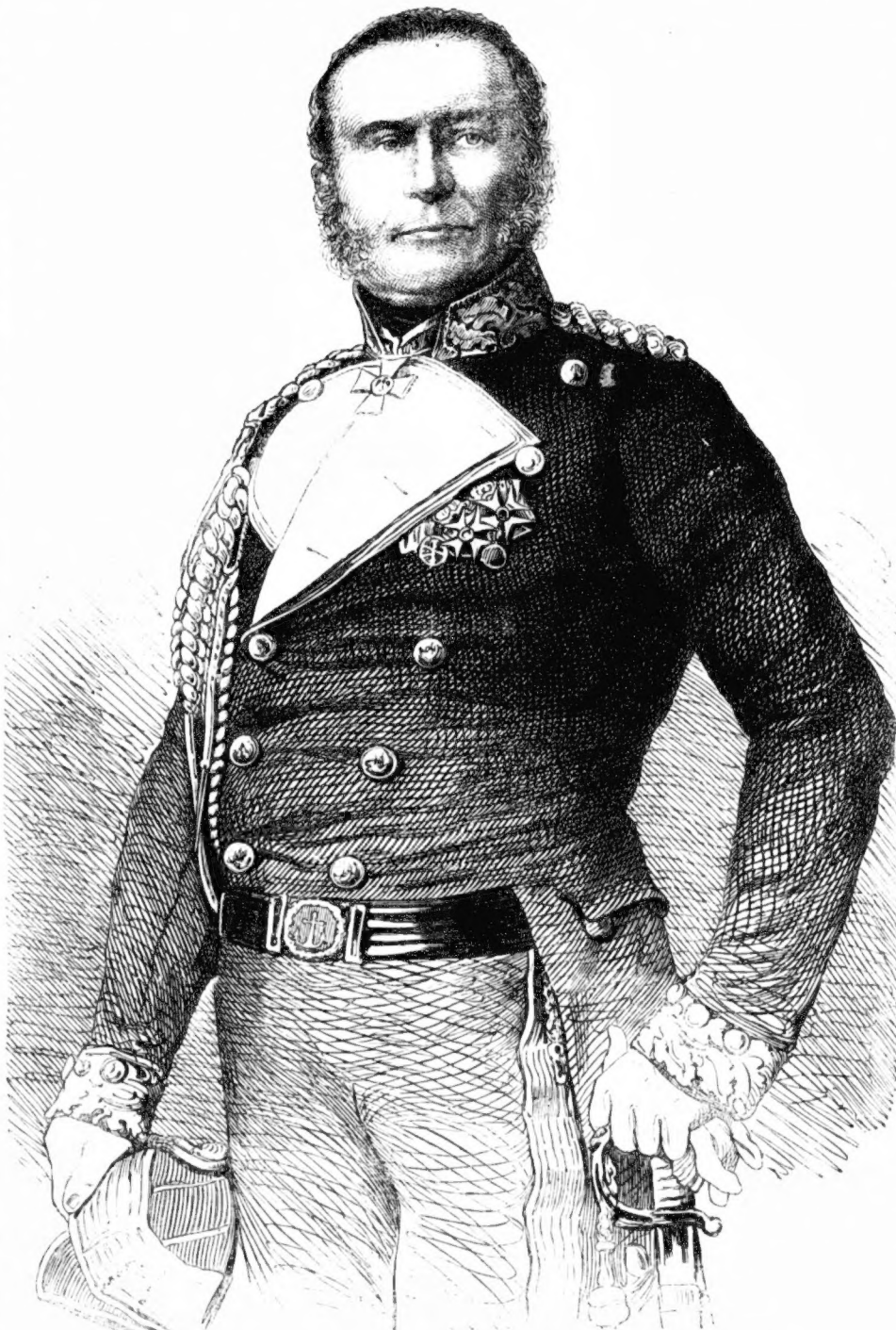
THE BRIGADE OF GENERAL BIXIO LEAVING PALERMO.

EVENTS at Palermo have assumed a calm regularity which must be an inexpressible boon to the inhabitants after the late sanguinary scenes in which almost all had to become actors. Indeed, under the energetic and wise policy of General Garibaldi, things take orderly courses, and all the confusion of misrule, and even of warfare, is ameliorated by the feeling of confidence and security which he infuses into the inhabitants. Our illustration represents the defiling of General Bixio's brigade before the Cathedral of Palermo; and our readers will see at a glance that the whole city seems to have turned out to give the troops (volunteers) a parting cheer, and to wish them god-speed on their march into the interior.

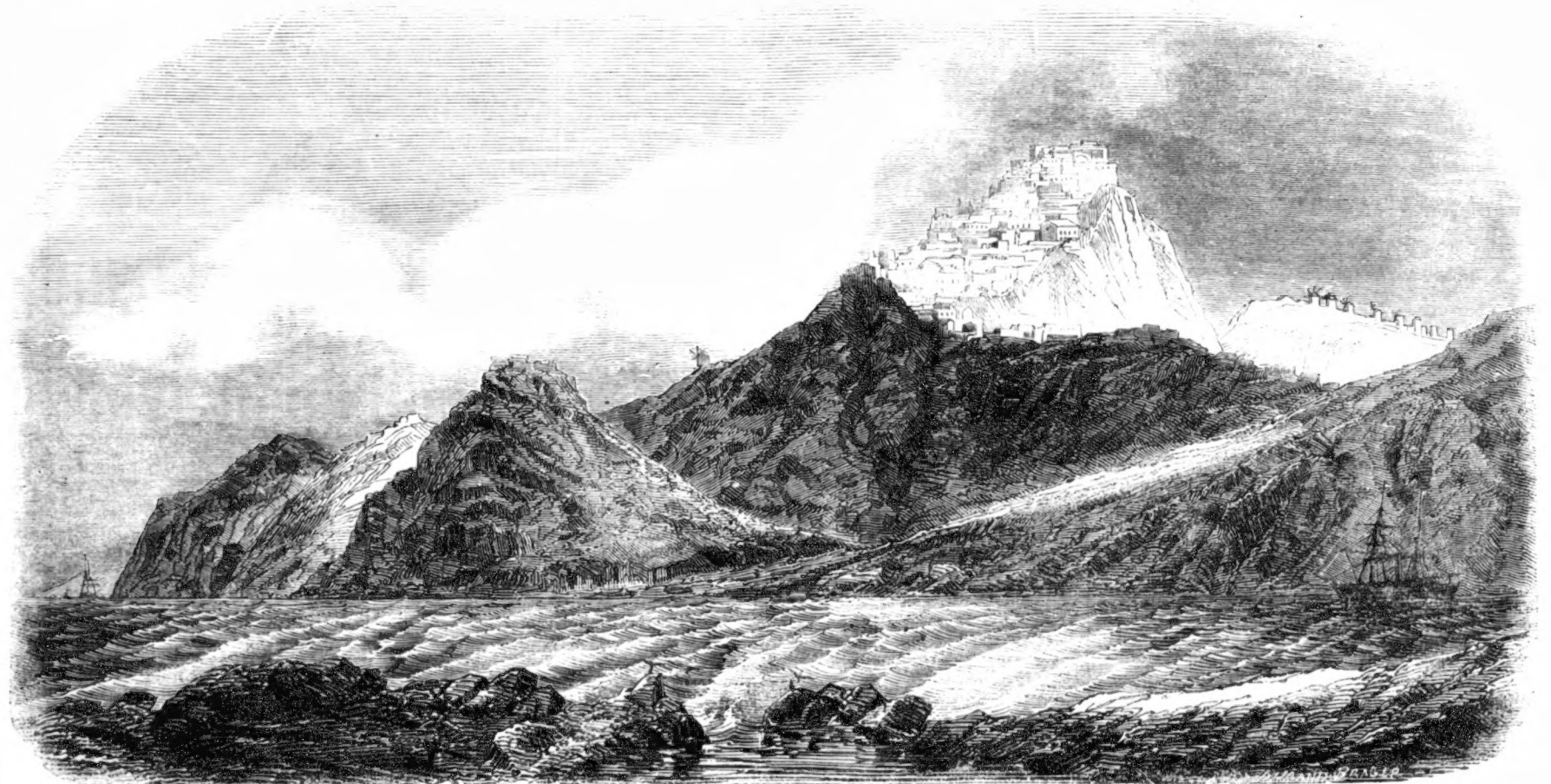
THE ECLIPSE IN SPAIN.

FROM some of the scientific men who went to Spain to witness the total eclipse of the sun we have received letters descriptive of the phenomena attending that event. Mr. Lowe, the meteorologist, who was at Fuente del Mar, near Santander, says:—

"Before totality commenced the colours in the sky and on the hills were magnificent beyond all description. The clear sky in N. assumed a deep indigo colour, while in W. the horizon was pitch black (like night). In the E. the clear sky was very pale blue, with orange and red, like sunrise, and the hills in S. were very red. On the shadow sweeping across the deep blue in N. changed like magic to pale sunrise tints of orange and red, while the sunrise appearance in E. had changed to indigo. The colours increased in brilliancy near the horizon. Overhead the sky was leaden. Some white houses at a little distance were brought nearer, and assumed a warm yellow tint. The darkness was great. Thermometers could not be read. The countenances of men were of a livid pink. The Spaniards lay down, and the children screamed with fear; fowls hastened to roost, ducks clustered together, pigeons dashed against the sides of houses, flowers closed (*Hibiscus Africanus* as early as 2h. 5m.), at 2h. 52m. cocks began to crow (ceasing at 2h. 57m., and recommencing at 3h. 5m.). As darkness came on many butterflies which were seen about flew as if drunk, and at last disappeared. The air became very humid, so much so that the grass felt to one of the observers as if recently rained upon. So many facts have been noticed and recorded that it is impossible to do more than give a brief statement of the leading features. At 5h. 55m. a mock sun was formed 22 deg. below the true sun, having the ordinary circular form. From the summit of Pena Castilla, overlooking the Bay of Biscay, Mr. Heath noticed the magnificence of the colouring of the sky reflected in the sea, while the water



VICE-ADMIRAL JAN SCHRODER, CHIEF OF THE PRUSSIAN MARINE.



CASTRO, ISLAND OF MILO.

ence was noticed on the west side of the sun, of the same colour as those first seen; and below this a most beautiful collection, as of golden beads closely strung together, shone out, extending to the lowest part of the western limit of the sun. The cusps of the sun were rounded before and after totality, and the prominences were lurid and well defined. A very considerable variation of the compass took place during the eclipse."

At Los Corrales Mr. J. Mould remarked that the blue sky over Santander appeared a very dark indigo, afterwards changing to a deep amber, and was most beautiful; that his fowls began to march "a cana," but, light coming on, they returned to their usual occupation.

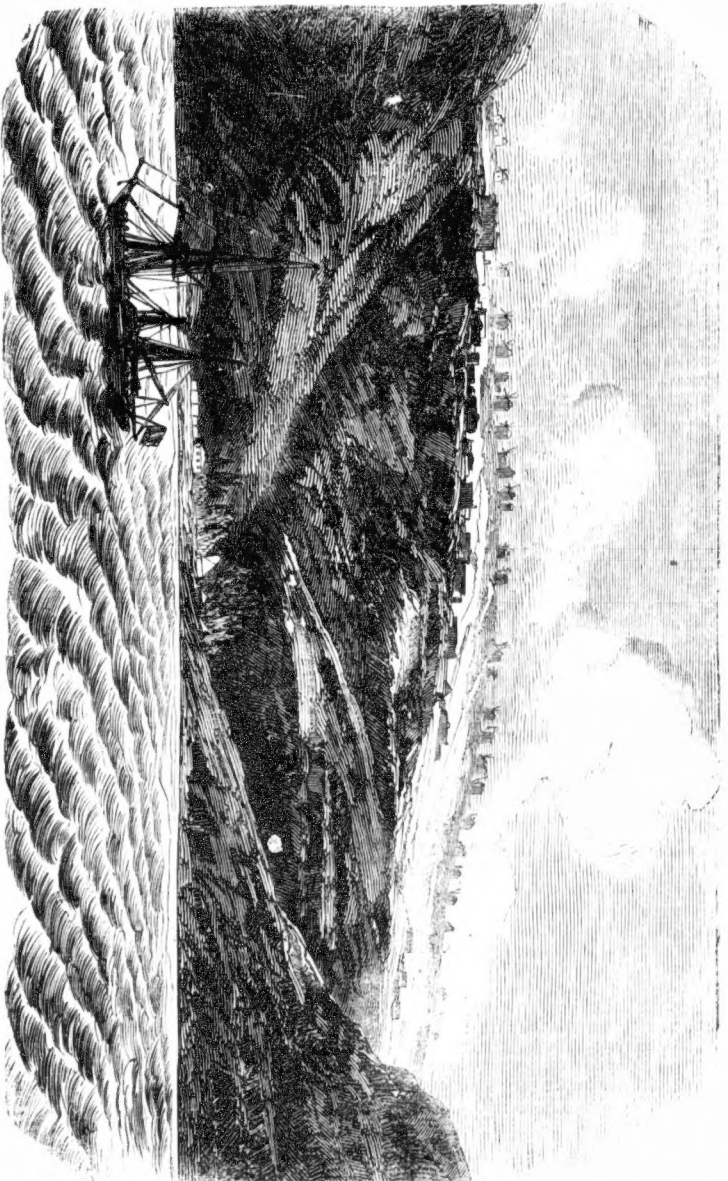
Mr. R. A. Thompson, some time observer in the University of Dublin, took his station on a hill near Tudeela. He says:—

Shortly after three o'clock it became evident that the total eclipse was approaching from the north-west. At three minutes past three the sky and the horizon in that direction were rapidly becoming dark, while the bright glow of sunshine was as yet unchanged towards the south-east.

At four minutes past three an unearthly ghastly glow, once seen never to be forgotten, covered the whole scene, and was most evident upon the gravelly ground at my feet. The light now rapidly decreased. But, with the exception of this glow, which was very conspicuous upon the clay hills, I could see no particular change of colour in the trees or landscape.

At five minutes past three the western horizon was lost in darkness, and the conical hills to the north-north-west were invisible, while the clouds toward the east sent forth a bright glow of light, from the sun still shining on their fronts. At this moment bright waving lines of light flickered one after another over the ground parallel to my line of sight with the sun. On looking upward from these I found that the sun had already disappeared, and that I had missed the formation of the corona. The black circle of the moon was already surrounded by this crown of glory; two stars shone brightly a few degrees from the sun, and so magnificent was the spectacle above, so glorious the spectacle below, that I could not help looking a few moments from the one to the other. A bright light, I think of a greenish-yellow colour, skirted the horizontal sky, and the banks of cumuli shone with a brilliant glow. The darkness was not intense; the light from the corona and the distant refractions far surpassed the brightest moonlight. It would have been easy to read the smallest type.

"I now looked at the corona. It was not of uniform breadth, but generally about half the moon's diameter, while long beams of light issued forth in several directions. The longest, about 10 deg. below the east side of the sun, was considerably longer than the moon's diameter, if I can trust my memory, after the totality was past. The beam next in length was not far from the lowest point of the sun's vertical diameter, a few degrees to the west, and this beam, as it



THE ISLAND OF MULO.—THE RAVINE IN WHICH THE MULO VENTS WAS FORMED.

approached the sun, appeared to curve upwards, and to join another beam which was thrown off about 45 deg. below the eastern edge of the sun. For a few moments these two beams formed a distinct crescent, with its convex edge nearly touching the sun, otherwise the beams remained unchanged during the total eclipse; but this crescent was not evident during the whole time. Another of the longer beams was thrown off from a point about 30 deg. east of the top of the vertical diameter. I also observed within the halo three darker beams, much shorter than the breadth of the corona. One of these issued from the central point of the crescent I have described. The other two were, I believe, near the top of the eastern edge, but of this I speak from recollection, and not with confidence.

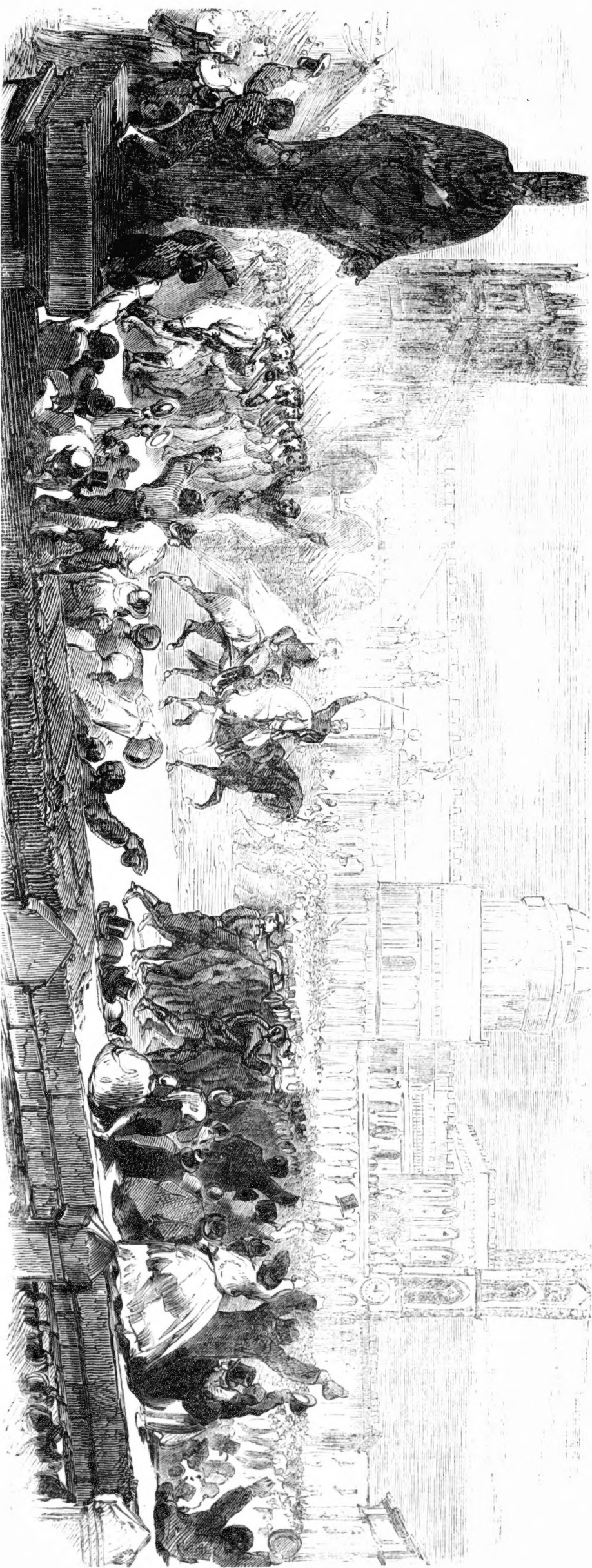
"While I was observing these beams the edge of the sun suddenly reappeared, about nine minutes and a half past three, and the first instantaneous burst of returning light was very impressive. I now observed intensely the disappearance of the corona, and can say with confidence that it did not disappear, but was gradually rendered invisible by the increasing intensity of the sun's light. I could perceive it gradually diminishing in breadth, till I could no longer observe the sun without protection to the eyes. The long rays disappeared first.

"I now looked again to the south. The north-west horizon was glowing with light, and to the south-east the cloud-bank beyond Tudeela was scarcely visible. The total eclipse was passing in that direction; the clouds presently became invisible and remained so during about six minutes, when they gradually returned. The rapid increase of darkness to the south-east, and that of returning light to the north-west, were very evident; otherwise I perceived no line of shadow upon the earth's surface.

"Though much occupied with these observations, the impression produced by the total eclipse is one which can never be effaced from the mind."

THE NATIONAL DEFENCES.

A COPY of the minute made by the Defence Committee at the Horse Guards—the Duke of Cambridge, Vice-Admiral Dundas, General Airey, Major General Bloomfield, Colonel Bingham, and Colonel Gordon—relative to the report of the Royal Commissioners, has been presented to Parliament by her Majesty. The committee concur with the Royal Commission to the full extent of their propositions both as regards works for the arsenals and dockyards, and the number of men necessary to garrison them; but they are of opinion that, of the whole force required, a larger proportion of the well-trained troops of the regular army will be necessary than appears to be contemplated by the commissioners. "Seeing the altered circumstances," continues the report, "produced by the



DEPARTURE OF THE BRIGADE OF GENERAL BINI FROM PALERMO.—FROM A SKETCH BY G. B. B. B.

introduction of steam, which has necessitated a larger military organisation than has hitherto existed in this country, the committee consider that they would be shrinking from their duty if they did not bring forward on the present occasion their opinion as to the insufficiency of the present strength of the regular Army, and they trust that it will be admitted to be wise and prudent to place it on a scale corresponding to that of the other branches of defence; for it can never be forgotten that, however essential and valuable the militia and volunteers may be, they can only be treated as reserves and auxiliaries to meet great emergencies which may arise." The committee conclude by advertising to the possession of the Channel Islands and the seas surrounding them as a naval station, which they consider to be so material to the command of the British Channel as to form an important element in any general system of defence for the United Kingdom; and they further urge the absolute necessity for the establishment of one or more central depôts as essential for the security of the vast amount of military stores and material now concentrated at Woolwich.

INNER LIFE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—NO. 140.

DISRAELI LEADS HIS PARTY INTO THE DITCH.

Mr. Disraeli, on the 15th instant, committed another grave indiscretion, and again, to the great disgust of certain of the Conservatives, "led his party into a ditch." The ditch was not very deep, and the party easily got out; but not without damage, especially to the leader. Mr. Disraeli used to be lauded as an able leader, but late events have proved that he is rather cunning than able. An able leader never fights merely to obtain a triumph. He calculates the cost of victory before he fights, and if it will not pay for the cost he will not fight. Indeed, your able General deems an entirely barren victory to be as bad as a defeat. Now, on the day in question, Mr. Disraeli, as he has often done before, fought for a mere victory—a victory which, if he had gained it, would have led to no result. But, alas! he met with a defeat—fought for a barren victory, and sustained a defeat. Hence the Conservatives are more than ever disgusted with their leader. If he had gained the insignificant triumph which he aimed at his offence might have been condoned; but, in such a struggle, to allow himself to be outmanœuvred, led into an ambuscade, and get beaten, is an unpardonable fault. Perhaps Mr. Disraeli, like some other despotic leaders whom we know, thought that, to prevent mutiny and insurrection, it was absolutely necessary to give his forces employment; but then, in that case, he should have made himself sure of success. There was no small amount of grumbling in France when Louis Napoleon returned from Italy with little but barren laurels; but if he had been defeated there what would his position have been worth?

FERMOY'S MOTION.—THE PREVIOUS QUESTION.

Let us now state the case. Lord Fermo, the Radical member for Mylebone, in his zeal for the privileges of the House of Commons, and his more earnest zeal to stand well with his constituents, moved the following resolution:—"That the rejection by the House of Lords of the Repeal of the Paper Duties is an encroachment on the rights and privileges of the House of Commons; and it is, therefore, incumbent on the House to adopt a practical measure for the vindication of its rights and privileges." "Prave 'ords" these, no doubt; but it must suggest itself to every one that (like ancient Pistol's) they are nothing but words. It is true they speak of "a practical measure;" but, then, no practical measure is suggested. Why did not Lord Fermo move, or at all events suggest, "the practical measure"? Echo answers, "Why?" It was open to Lord Fermo to do this. For instance, he might have brought in another bill, or he might have moved the stoppage of the supplies, as Sir John Trelawny wished to do, but was foiled; or he might have opposed Gladstone's proposition to utilise the proceeds of the paper tax. In short, there are many "practical ways" in which he might have opposed the Lords; but, instead of proposing a measure, he only proposes mere words. Lord Palmerston, with that keen eye of his, saw the faultiness of Lord Fermo's position in a moment, and promptly attacked it at its weak point. "Already," said the noble Lord, in effect, "we have four resolutions upon the books. These are sufficient. We want no more; but, nevertheless, I do not wish to move a direct negative to the noble Lord's proposition, for by doing so I might be thought to condemn the sentiments of the resolution and to approve the conduct of the Lords. I therefore propose the previous question."

WHAT IS THE PREVIOUS QUESTION?

The previous question is an ingenious mode of avoiding a decision upon a subject before the House, and, in so many words, it means this: "I don't think that it is expedient, considering all the circumstances in which we are placed, to have this question proposed, and therefore I move that the question be not put." The reason why this mode is called the "previous question" is obvious. It is a question which comes before the putting of the original motion; and its convenience is equally plain. If the original motion be put, the House must decide "Ay" or "No." But many members do not want to decide. Perhaps they have not made up their minds, or it may be very inconvenient for them to vote either way. If they vote "Ay" they may please their constituents, but not themselves; if they vote "No" they may please themselves and not their constituents; or they may say, "We approve of this motion in the abstract, but we think that it is ill-timed and can lead to nothing but embarrassment." Well, in all these cases the previous question is very convenient, as it affords the members an opportunity of avoiding, or (as some would say) of shirking, the question.

HOW IT IS PUT.

The manner in which the previous question is put is this:—Mr. Speaker rises and says, "It has been moved that (here he reads the original proposition)—since which the previous question has been moved—the question which I have to put is, That the question be now put." Some of our readers will probably think that this is a very tautologous sentence, containing a great deal of unnecessary iteration, and that this method of putting the question is likely to lead to a vast amount of confusion. And no doubt, at first sight, there appears to be some truth in all this. But by a little attention the formula can be easily understood; and we are bound to say that, after reflecting upon this formula, we have been unable to discover any way of making it more simple.

MEMBERS IN THE WRONG LOBBY.

But that members do get perplexed, and get into the wrong lobby, when the previous question is put, there can be no doubt. One enthusiastic Radical, for example, on Tuesday night, got into the wrong lobby, and voted with the Government when he wished to vote against it. This gentleman was away from the House when the division was called—in the smoking-room, probably, enjoying a quiet cigar and ruminating on the question before the House, or, perhaps, studying and mentally rehearsing a speech with which he intended to astonish the world. Suddenly he heard the bells ring. He threw down his unfinished Havannah, rushed up the stairs, and, just as the Sergeant-at-Arms was about to bang to the door, entered the House. There all was confusion, as it generally is when a division is called. The bar was crowded so densely that he could not get near enough to hear the question, and, as he had been away an hour or so, he had no idea of the exact position of affairs. However, when the members filed out, he watched which side the Radicals went, and, believing that he could not be wrong, he followed the stream, entered the No lobby, voted against the motion being put, and did not discover that the great bulk of the Radicals had, during his absence, changed their tactics, and that he was on the wrong side. Of course he was mortified enough when he discovered his mistake, which he did find out almost immediately after he entered. But there was no remedy then. The lobby doors were locked at one end, the members were filing out between the tellers at the other; and, however disagreeable the task, he must vote. Some will have it that several Conservatives voted wrongly also; but, on looking over the names of the Opposition members who went with the Government, we fancy that this is not true; for these men were old birds, and not at all likely to make a blunder of this sort. They voted

with the Government, we apprehend, because they honestly disapproved of the Dizzy dodge—did not mean, in short, to be again "led into the ditch."

THE MANŒUVRE.

When Lord Palmerston had moved the previous question it was generally thought that the Conservatives would, to a man, go with him; that the Government and the bulk of the Liberal party, followed by the whole of the Conservatives, would march into one lobby and leave the Radicals alone in the other. And this was clearly the right policy for the Conservatives to adopt. There was honour and safety in such a course. In that which they did adopt there was none. And such a policy they would have adopted if they had been led by a Peel instead of a Disraeli, or, indeed, by any man who could take a large view of his position, look behind and before, and prefer honour, consistency, and the permanent advantage of his party to a temporary barren victory, snatched from an opponent in a moment of confusion. But to Disraeli the temptation to obtain even a worthless triumph was irresistible. When Lord Palmerston first announced his amendment it is probable that Disraeli had no other intention than to support the Government. Most likely he did not mean even to speak, or to encourage his friends to speak, but quietly to wait for the division, and then lead his party into the Government lobby, without saying a word. This would have been dignified Conservative conduct. It would have proclaimed to the country that he and his followers were not a faction fighting against another faction, and always ready for a fight and a triumph whenever they see a coat tailed before them, but a great Conservative party, supremely anxious, above all things, to maintain the institutions of their country. Let it be here observed that we are giving no opinion upon the question of the "Lords' innovation." We have our own views of that. All we wish to do here is to show how the Conservatives ought to have acted. How, then, was it that Disraeli did not adopt this policy? The answer is not far to seek. For three hours he sat brooding in silence on his bench. Whilst thus employed he noticed that on the opposite side there was the strangest confusion and division; that, whilst the Whigs were strongly in favour of the Government proposition, the Radicals were, with few exceptions, determinedly opposed to it; and, whilst he brooded and brooded, a light came over his mind, and it occurred to him that, if he opposed Palmerston's motion, the Radicals would join him, and unitedly they might beat the Government, and that afterwards he and his party, when the original motion should be put, would join the Government and beat the Radicals, and he should thus gain two victories—beat the Radicals first, save the Government from defeat afterwards, and be the master of the situation. At what particular moment it was that this policy was announced it is impossible to say; but as soon as it was announced all was activity and bustle amongst the Conservatives. The whips were at the door warning their friends not to leave, and every available absent member was promptly summoned to his post; and for a time the Conservatives were confident of victory. "We have 150 men present. There are at least forty Radicals who will join us. The Government cannot muster above 150 in all. We are sure of a victory." Such were the vaunting calculations of the Conservative whips, uttered or unexpressed; and for a time there seemed to be every probability that they would be fulfilled.

OUTMANŒUVRED.

But they were not fulfilled, as we all know. And how was it that they were not? The answer is, that it was not from any want of zeal and energy on the part of the Conservative whips; they plied their lash well and effectively. Every man within reach was brought up, and they thought that the Radicals had been made all right; but it was this last calculation that failed. Almost up to the time when the question was put the Radicals seemed to be "all right," but at the last moment a change came over their dream, their eyes were opened, the old esprit de corps inspired them, and, to the astonishment of Disraeli and his whips, they suddenly broke the unholy alliance, marched in a body into the No lobby with their old chief, and the battle was lost. It was very amusing to watch the division from the gallery. At first the Radicals below the gangway seemed to pause and hesitate; but soon one went, then another; and, at length, the whole body rushed out like a flock of sheep following an old bellwether through a gap. There was one member who for a few minutes was in some danger of dividing in a literal sense, for, while he was hesitating, on one side he was pulled by Mr. Brand, and on the other by Mr. Whalley, both of whom pulled so energetically that it appeared for a time as if they would pull the poor man into two, and each take half; but in the end Mr. Brand triumphed, and the enthusiastic Mr. Whalley was obliged to glide away into the Conservative lobby without his prize.

AND DEFEATED.

The dismay and discomfiture of the Conservative chief when his aide-de-camp reported that the auxiliaries on which he relied were all gone over to the enemy must have been very great. Up to the time when he entered the lobby we have heard that he confidently believed that they were firm, would make the flank movement which had been arranged, and secure him an easy victory. "Where are your men?" said the aide-de-camp to one of the few Radicals who appeared in the Conservative ranks. "All gone over," was the reply; and we are assured that this was the first intimation that was given that the plot had failed. But the mortification did not end here; for when the lists came to be examined it was found that some dozen Conservatives had deserted too. In short, the plot was an utter failure. The Government achieved a victory, and the Conservative chief found that he had once more "led his party into a ditch." Lord Robert Cecil was not present. The noble Lord is not often now in his place, and is never found in these mere party fights. Newdegate, however, was there, and voted with the Government; but his hon. friend and colleague, Mr. Spooner, went with his party. These two generally act together—are, indeed, as closely connected as Siamese twins; but on this occasion they separated. Loud laughter and cheers (the laughter louder than the cheers) rang through the House when Mr. Brand was seen to be on the right of the tellers as he marched up to the table to announce the numbers; and when he read out in his clear voice, "Ayes to the right, 138; noes to the left, 177," there were three distinct volleys of applause. Such, then, is the history of this event—an event which has been and still is much canvassed, and will probably lead to further events.

BRITISH CRUISERS AND AMERICAN SHIPS.—It appears from the following despatch from Mr. Secretary Cass to Mr. Miles, of the House of Representatives, that Commander Fitzroy, of her Majesty's ship *Falcon*, has been censured for seizing a vessel which he suspected of being a slave:—"Department of State, Washington, June 11. Sir,—In consequence of the conversation with you at this department, in reference to the violent and illegal seizure, on the coast of Africa, of the American merchant brig *Jehossee* by her Britannic Majesty's ship *Falcon*, Commander Fitzroy, I submitted the matter to the President, and instructions were sent to the Minister of this Government at the Court of St. James's to ask of her Britannic Majesty's Government such immediate consideration of the occurrence as its gravity seemed to demand. I have the honour to inform you that, by the reply of Mr. Dallas to these instructions, just received, the President has learned with pleasure that her Britannic Majesty's Government have censured the conduct of Commander Fitzroy, and expressed, in the amplest manner, its regret at the occurrence of these unwarranted and illegal proceedings."

PROPORTION OF THE SEXES IN VICTORIA.—The disparity of the sexes in the crudely-formed colony of Victoria appears to be greater than in any other part of Australia. The last census of the population of the colony showed 88,335 unmarried men of twenty years and upwards, but 12,545 unmarried women of corresponding ages. The proportion of unmarried men on the goldfields was still greater, the bachelors being to the spinsters in the proportion of upwards of 20 to 1. Could not the Employment of Women Society take this matter in hand with advantage, instead of endeavouring to block up still more the home labour market?

VOLUNTEER RIFLEMEN.—A Parliamentary return shows that within a circle of twenty miles radius, the General Post Office being the centre, there are 234 companies of enrolled volunteer riflemen, with a maximum strength of 23,665, the minimum strength of 14,170, and a mean strength of 18,918. The approximate numerical strength of the volunteer artillerymen in the counties of Kent, Devon, and Hants amounts to 53 companies, with the mean strength of 2235. Of rifles in the same counties the companies are 113, and the mean strength 9696.

Imperial Parliament.

FRIDAY, JULY 20.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

The Local Taxation Return Bill, the Annuity Tax Abolition (Edinburgh) Bill, and the Metropolitan Building Act (1855) Amendment Bill were read a third time and passed.

The Tithe Commutation Bill, the Court of Queen's Bench Act Amendment Bill, and several others passed through Committee.

The Mines Regulation and Inspection Bill, the Tramways (Ireland) Bill, the Isle of Man Harbours Bill, the Dominica Hurricane Loan Bill, and the Admiralty Court Jurisdiction Bill were read a second time.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE SAVINGS-BANK BILL.

The House went into Committee on the Savings-banks and Friendly Societies Investment Bill.

On the first clause, Mr. SOTHKRON-ESTCOURT moved its rejection, on the ground that it gave too much power to the Chancellor of the Exchequer to deal with the funds of savings-banks.

After a debate, on a division, the clause was lost by 116 to 78. The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER immediately said that, as the loss of the clause entirely destroyed the bill, he should move that the Chairman leave the chair.

The bill is therefore withdrawn.

MR. HORSMAN AND SIR CHARLES WOOD.

On the motion for the adjournment to Monday, Sir C. Wood took the opportunity of referring to a personal attack made on him by Mr. Horsman on the previous evening in his absence. He had been charged with suppressing papers connected with his department. He thought he had disposed of that accusation on a former occasion. The papers in question were moved for, and were granted as an unopposed return. His personal duty was then concluded, and he knew nothing of the progress of the printing of the papers, but he afterwards ascertained that there had been some delay. Mr. Horsman had stated that he (Sir C. Wood) had declared that he knew nothing of them, although he had known all about them three days before. He met this with a direct denial; for up to the debate on the second reading of the Indian Army Bill he had never seen them. Mr. Horsman had since moved for papers comprising, among others, a correspondence of the Secretaries for India and War in 1858. If the papers existed they must have been in both departments. The Secretary for War had told him that the papers were not in existence; and when Mr. Horsman asked if he objected to their production he told him so, but that he had no objection to the production of some of the other papers. He had never said, as stated by Mr. Horsman, "that the papers were not in his (Sir C. Wood's) office." The right hon. Baronet went on to state in detail Mr. Horsman's statements, and gave them all in the main an emphatic denial. In reference to the relations between himself and the Indian Council, he stated that they had been entirely satisfactory, except his difference with them on the subject of the Indian Army.

Mr. HORSMAN, in regard to the charge that he attacked Sir C. Wood in his absence, inquired why he left the House just before he (Mr. Horsman) rose to address the House? It was because he (Mr. Horsman) heard that the Indian Army Bill would be brought in on the following evening that he read the correspondence in question; and he was not disposed to retract or qualify one word he had said.

Sir C. WOOD said he left the House because he had been sent for by Sir Richard Airey, who wanted to speak to him.

Lord PALMERSTON said he had never known a more discourteous or unfair proceeding than that taken by Mr. Horsman, and he hoped he was the only member who would so conduct himself. Every man of common feeling or generosity would have taken the trouble of ascertaining whether Sir C. Wood was in the House before he made the attack and read the correspondence. He thought Mr. Horsman had made out no case whatever.

THE NEW RIDE IN KENSINGTON-GARDENS.

Mr. E. JAMES here interposed to inquire whether the sanction of the Crown had been given to the establishment of the new ride in Kensington-gardens?

Mr. Hubbard, Sir J. Pakington, and Colonel Dickson defended the change; and Lord Enfield objected to it, and asked if any demand of any kind had been made for it?

Mr. W. COWPER said the charge had originated with himself, his idea being to extend the facilities for riding in a part of Kensington-gardens very little used, and at the same time to afford the amusement of looking at equestrians to persons on foot, which he had observed was very popular. The ride would only be open in the summer, and when it was closed in the winter he would ascertain which way the preponderance of opinion went with regard to it.

THE IMPORTATION OF RAGS.

In answer to Mr. Fuller, Lord J. RUSSELL said that he had made representations in favour of a reduction of the duty on the export of foreign rags, but he had not been successful with any foreign Government. Great opposition had been made in France to any change in the system of prohibition, and it did not appear likely to take place. The French Government would, no doubt, expect that the terms of the treaty with regard to the import duty on rags would be fulfilled, although they had not asked for it.

THE QUEEN'S PRINTERS' PATENT.—ORANGE DEMONSTRATION.

The other subjects upon which discussion was let in by the motion for adjournment comprehended the case of a female petitioner unjustly prosecuted; the Queen's printers' patent, so far as relates to the printing of bibles and to the preventing of the importation into England of bibles printed elsewhere; the hoisting of Orange flags upon the towers and steeples of churches in the north of Ireland, and the state of that part of Ireland (a subject which was introduced by a speech of considerable length by Mr. Cogan); the delay of certain returns relating to Indian matters, and the expenditure on the Ceylon Railway.

MAYNOOTH.

Mr. CARDWELL moved the second reading of the Maynooth College Bill, the object of which is to make provision for the repair of the college.

Mr. SPOONER moved the rejection of the bill. On a division the second reading was carried by 135 to 57. Other business was disposed of, and the House adjourned.

MONDAY, JULY 23.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

The business before the House of Lords on Monday was not of public interest, and the House adjourned at an early hour.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE SYRIAN MASSACRES.

In reply to a series of questions put by Sir J. FERGUSON, Lord J. RUSSELL stated what had occurred with reference to the sending of a body of French troops to Syria, in consequence of the massacres there, to stay which, he observed, there was an impression on the coast that the Turks had not done all they might have done. He added that a telegram had been received from Constantinople stating that peace had been established between the Druses and Maronites.

OUR DEFENCES.

The House having resolved itself into a Committee of Fortifications and Works,

Lord PALMERSTON rose to propose a resolution, the object of which was to carry into effect the recommendations of the Royal Commission, with a view to secure our dockyards and other vulnerable points. He observed that, after the conclusion of the great war, in which our supremacy at sea had been established, a long continuance of peace was calculated upon, and the Government had thought it unnecessary to call upon the country to secure our dockyards against the distant contingency of a war, and as long as our fleet depended upon the wind and the weather alone we did right to rest upon the strength we possessed. Gradually, however, steam became the moving power, which impaired the advantages of our insular position. Referring to the well-known warning given by Sir John Burgoyne in his letter to the Duke of Wellington, he observed that this appeal fell upon deaf ears; but when Lord Derby came into power his Government took an important step to repair our means of defence, and that was followed up by the succeeding Government, though some of our most important establishments still remained imperfectly defended. A Commission was at length appointed to inquire into the facts, and the results had been laid upon the table of the House. The Commissioners' recommendations would require a total outlay of £11,000,000, including about £1,500,000 for armaments; and he proposed, for the safety of the country, that these recommendations should substantially be carried out. To supply the funds two courses were available—either to vote annually such portions of the sum as the country would like to spend upon this object, or, as he felt it his duty to recommend, to endeavour to complete the works at the earliest possible period, without laying on the country a larger burden than was absolutely necessary, by raising, by means of terminable annuities, a sum sufficient to effect the object in three or four years. His opinion was, that if these works were necessary they were necessary as soon as they could be got. The course he proposed was a departure from principle; but Parliament had encouraged the raising of money by loan for the improvement of landed estates, and that policy which was good for individuals could not be unwise for the country. By raising the money by means of terminable annuities there would not be a

permanent burden upon the country. It was impossible for any one to say that the future, charged as the horizon was with clouds, was free from danger. We had recently contracted with our immediate neighbour across the Channel a commercial treaty, and experience had proved that commercial intercourse between nations contributed to the preservation of peace; but the treaty alone would be a frail security for a great nation like this, so open to attack. France had an army of 600,000 men, 400,000 actually in arms—a far greater force than France required for the purpose of defence. He did not mean to say that her army was raised for the deliberate purpose of aggression, but we ought not to rely upon the forbearance of any Power, and France was not strengthening herself upon land alone. The utmost exertions had been made and were making to create a navy almost equal to our own, which could not be required for the defence of France, but which furnished the means of transporting in a few hours a large military force to our shores. He pointed out the dangers to which this country would be exposed by such an attempt; large contributions might be levied upon the metropolis, or a sudden attack by sea and land upon our naval arsenals might destroy the very cradle of our naval power, and the operation most likely to be attempted would be the landing a considerable force for the destruction of our dockyards. If London should be in danger, what would be wanted was the means of fighting a battle with the greatest possible amount of military force. For this purpose we must provide such arrangements as would make the smallest number of troops necessary to defend the dockyards, and the effect of these fortifications would be to set free a larger amount of force in the field for the defence of London. Many thought that the sum estimated by the Commissioners was excessive for the purpose, but their estimates included armaments, which would come out of the annual votes. The Government were of opinion that £9,000,000 would be sufficient for the purpose; out of this about £1,850,000 would be for the purchase of land, a considerable portion of which would be profitably let, reducing the actual sum for the works to £7,150,000. He compared the sum with the large expenditure of France and other Continental States for the same object, suggesting that, with such examples, it would be criminal in this country to neglect its defence. He then read the resolution he intended to move, granting for constructing the works £2,000,000 for the present year, charged upon the Consolidated Fund, and authorising the Commissioners of the Treasury to raise this sum by annuities for the term of thirty years, to be charged upon the fund. The Government, he observed, did not ask the whole sum at once, but proposed to spread it over three or four years, and £2,000,000 was as much as could be advantageously spent between the present month and the same time next year. Application would be made annually for such portions of the £2,000,000 as might be required. He reminded the House, in conclusion, that annuities to the amount of £550,000 would expire in the year 1867, which would more than cover the interest upon this loan.

Mr. HENRIER thought it was inadvisable to raise this amount by terminable annuities, which would be throwing away a large sum of money. Mr. BENTLEY said during his seventeen years' experience in that House he had never known an instance of a question of such magnitude and importance brought before the House without notice, and of such a resolution being proposed to be adopted on the same evening. In all probability the proposition would involve an expenditure of twice £12,000,000. He protested against being entrapped or coaxed into such a resolution; and, saying nothing of the tone and manner in which it had been proposed, he should move that the Chairman report progress.

Mr. S. HENRIER entered into details of the plan of the fortifications proposed to be erected. At Portsmouth defences by land would be erected as well as by sea. The defences of the Needles and of the landing-places of the Isle of Wight, and three out of the five points at Spithead, would be the first operations. The works at Gosport would be completed, and it was proposed to finish all the defences of Portsmouth at once. At Plymouth the sea defences would be completed. At Pembroke the works would be comparatively small. The Thames, and Medway, and Chatham would be strengthened. At Dover the present works would be hastened, and the same course would be pursued at Portland, although the latter would not be made a large naval arsenal. At Cork harbour works would be commenced which would put the harbour into a good state of defence. The works proposed to be commenced this year would ultimately cost £5,000,000.

General PEARL supported the resolution. Mr. B. OSBORNE urged that Lord Palmerston's statements with regard to France were so remarkable that coming to a vote on this resolution at once would be doing so under a sort of panic. Time was required for consideration.

Lord PALMERSTON consented to postpone the debate until that day week. Mr. DISRAELI expressed some doubt as to the mode in which the money was to be raised; and

Sir G. C. LEWIS argued in its favour; and, after some further conversation, The House resumed.

SUPPLY.—ECCLESIASTICAL LAW.

On the motion for going into supply, Mr. H. SEYMOUR moved that, in the opinion of this House, the state of the ecclesiastical law in England and Ireland, and of the courts in which it is administered, and especially the Act commonly called the Clergy Discipline Act, require to be amended and reformed; and that it is incumbent on the Government to direct measures to be prepared for that purpose.

Sir G. GRAY opposed the motion, and it was negatived.

The House then went into Committee on the Civil Service Estimates, the first vote being for Royal palaces.

The greater part of the sitting was occupied by the discussion on the items of the estimates. The other business was disposed of, and the House adjourned at a quarter past three o'clock.

TUESDAY, JULY 24.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

COAST DEFENCES.

Lord MALMESBURY drew attention to the extreme importance in a military point of view of having a double line of rails between Southampton and Dorchester, and asked Lord GRANVILLE whether he could inform the House why the London and South-Western Railway Company had not conformed to the Act of Parliament, which pledged them, when the traffic receipts reached a certain amount, to make such a line.

Lord GRANVILLE said he believed that the traffic receipts had not yet reached the sum specified in the Act.

A short conversation took place on the Census (Ireland) Bill between Lords Ellenborough, Montagu, and Granville, as it was passing through Committee, on the unnecessary details required by the bill.

The Census (England) Bill passed through Committee.

FELONY AND MISDEMEANOUR BILL.

The second reading of the Felony and Misdemeanour Bill gave rise to a short discussion, terminating in a division, when the numbers were—For the second reading, 13; against it, 10; so the bill was read a second time.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE POOR LAW.

The House of Commons, at the morning sitting, went into Committee upon the Poor-law Board Continuance Bill, when a long discussion arose upon the first clause, which proposed to continue the board for five years. Mr. BAZLEY moving an amendment to limit its continuance to one year. This amendment was ultimately withdrawn in favour of one made by Mr. DEWES, substituting three years, which was carried, on a division, by 117 to 92.

PROMOTION AND RETIREMENT IN THE NAVY. Sir J. PAKINGTON moved an address praying her Majesty to issue a Royal Commission to consider the present system of promotion and retirement in the Royal Navy, and the present pay and position of the several classes of naval officers, and to report what changes therein are desirable, with a view to the increased efficiency of her Majesty's naval service. The scheme proposed by the Government had created general dissatisfaction among naval officers, who considered that they were treated with great injustice, and he thought the whole subject fit for inquiry by a Royal Commission. He stated that there were general complaints on the part of those officers in respect to their pay and allowances, and read extracts from letters representing that the command of a ship was a source of expense, not of emolument; and, without vouching for the justice of these complaints, he insisted that they furnished a fair ground for investigation in the interest of the service.

The motion was seconded by Sir M. SEYMOUR, and supported by Mr. TALBOT.

Lord C. PAGET defended the Government scheme, and stated that there were matters of detail still under consideration by the Board of Admiralty, which could deal with them better than a Royal Commission. The Board would be prepared, he said, next year to do something in the case of commanders of line-of-battle ships. The subject was constantly before the Admiralty, and it was better to trust a responsible department than to call together a commission that would excite expectations and unsettle minds.

Sir J. ELPHINSTONE spoke in favour of the motion, insisting that there was a widespread discontent throughout all ranks of naval officers.

Sir F. NARLEY said he had come down to the House determined to oppose the motion, but the speech of Sir J. PAKINGTON had altered his intention. He now said his thanks for his just and true statement, and should vote for the Commission.

Mr. F. BURNES observed that the motion asked for inquiry upon two grounds—the present system of promotion and retirement, and the condition of naval officers in respect to pay and position—both standing upon

a rather different footing. With regard to the first, he was struck with the want of any good ground assigned for the issue of a commission. As to the second ground, he asked what a Government was for, and why its functions and duty should be devolved upon irresponsible commissioners, who might make recommendations which the Government, though it might not think them right, would be compelled to carry out?

Mr. COCHRANE contended that the Navy was not treated with the same generosity as the Army, and should vote for the motion.

Mr. LINDSAY thought inquiry necessary.

Mr. WHITEHEAD concurred with Sir F. Baring, and believed that the result of appointing a Commission would be either the fixing a very large sum upon the Estimates or creating universal discontent in the Navy.

After a reply from Sir J. PAKINGTON, the motion was negatived on a division by 89 to 56.

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS.

Mr. DUNLOP moved resolutions that contracts extending over a period of years, and creating a public charge, entered into by the Government for the conveyance of mails by sea, or for the purpose of telegraphic communications beyond sea, should contain the condition that the contract should not be binding until it had lain upon the table of the House for a month without disapproval, unless approved by a resolution of the House; that every such contract should be accompanied by a minute of the Treasury, setting forth the grounds upon which it was authorised; and that a bill for confirming such contract should not be dealt with as a private bill. These resolutions he proposed at the instance of the Committee of which he was chairman.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER made no opposition to the resolutions, and thought the Committee had adopted the very best expedients which the case admitted.

Mr. ROBERTSON was anxious that the resolutions should not be adopted without one word of warning. It seemed to him that they mixed up two distinct functions—one appertaining to the Administration, and the other to the House of Commons, and that a portion of the responsibility of the Government would be taken away.

The resolutions were agreed to.

INDIAN AFFAIRS.

Leave was given to Sir C. WOOD to bring in a bill to remove doubts as to the authority of the senior member of Council, the Governor-General of India, in the absence of the President.

On the motion for leave to bring in a bill to extend in certain cases the provisions of the Superannuation Act (1859).

Mr. HORSMAN put it to the House whether so many bills ought to be introduced at so late a period of the Session, and without a syllable of explanation.

Sir C. WOOD shortly explained the object of the bill, and then moved for leave to introduce a third bill, to extend certain provisions for Admiralty jurisdiction in the colonies to her Majesty's territories in India.

Mr. HORSMAN repeated his objection, to which Sir C. WOOD replied, and leave was given.

The Votes at Elections Bill was read a second time. Other bills were forwarded, and the House adjourned.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 25.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE ECCLESIASTICAL COMMISSION.

On the order for going into Committee on the Ecclesiastical Commission, &c., Bill.

Sir G. C. LEWIS, in order to facilitate the progress of the measure, considering the lateness of the Session, said he proposed to withdraw certain compulsory clauses of the bill to which opposition was threatened.

Lord J. MANNERS appealed to Sir George to carry the process of excision still further, and to remove all those clauses which augmented and perpetuated the powers of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, and to which he should offer the most strenuous opposition.

Alderman COPELAND and Mr. JAMES recommended the withdrawal of the bill altogether.

Mr. MOWBRAY and other members, on the other hand, urged the going into Committee; and after a forcible defence of the general objects of the bill by Mr. WALPOLE, who dwelt upon the immense advantages which the Church and the whole community had derived from the Commission, the House went into Committee upon the bill.

The clauses were under discussion during the remaining portion of the sitting allotted to debate, the Chairman being ordered to report progress after the 21st clause had been agreed to.

The Coroners Bill (introduced by Sir G. Lewis), the Highways Bill, and the Larceny Laws Consolidation Act Amendment Bill were withdrawn.

THURSDAY, JULY 26.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

The following bills were read a third time and passed—viz., Census (England), Census (Ireland), Tithe Commutation, and Oxford University (No. 2) Bills. Several other bills were advanced a stage.

MILITARY VOLUNTEERS.

Earl FORTESCUE put a question to the Under-Secretary for War relative to the pay and allowance to Adjutants of administrative battalions of rifle volunteers in rural districts, and also as to the advisability of granting a permanent sergeant, to be paid by the Government, for each company of volunteers.

Lord VIVIAN said the time had arrived when the Government ought to do something for the volunteers in the shape of clothing and ornament; and, if this were done, he could guarantee that in one district he knew, where there were now only 3000, there would be from 12,000 to 15,000, and these, too, of the best class of men in the kingdom.

The Earl of ELMESBURY thought, as there would be a difficulty in maintaining by private subscriptions the necessary means of keeping it up, the magistrates in quarter sessions ought to have the power of levying a rate in the various districts for bearing the expense of the Adjutant and other necessary charges.

Earl GRANVILLE said his great hope was that the noble spirit that had manifested itself during the last year would not flag, and if it did not he had no doubt it would produce sufficient funds to maintain itself. With regard to levying a rate, he believed that a course more likely to unpopularise the movement could not be suggested. He thought the most prudent course would be for the Government to adhere to the scheme that had been shadowed out by the Secretary of State for War.

The subject then dropped.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

At the early sitting of the House the Militia Bill was read a third time and passed; the Gas (Metropolis) Bill, and the Ecclesiastical Commission, &c., Bill, severally passed through Committee.

At the evening sitting, on the motion of Lord PALMERSTON, it was agreed that on Tuesday week next, and every succeeding Tuesday until the end of the Session, the Government orders of the day should have precedence of other orders of the day and notices of motions.

The Gas Metropolis Bill was read a third time and passed.

THE LOAN FOR FORTIFICATIONS.

Sir F. KELLY asked the First Lord of the Treasury whether, in the event of a loan being effected upon terminable annuities, it was the intention of the Government to introduce a provision in the bill to modify the scale of charges in respect of the income tax upon any annuities so granted?

Lord PALMERSTON said the question would merely affect the value of the securities for the time being.

THE NATIONAL DEFENCES.

Mr. BRIGHT gave notice that on Monday next, when the vote for the national defences was proposed, he should move an amendment to the effect that, as the House had voted £23,000,000 for the ordinary naval and military expenditure of the year, and £3,800,000 for the Chinese war, the consideration of the report of the Commissioners on National Defences should be postponed till a future period.

THE PAPER DUTIES (CUSTOMS).

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER gave notice that on Monday, the 6th of August, the Government proposed to bring forward the resolution affecting the paper duties of which they had given notice.

THE SPIRIT DUTIES.

Mr. BRIGHT asked whether the Government intended that the increased duties on British spirits were to be perpetual, or whether they were to be brought under the consideration of the House annually?

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said the question was a very important one, and required grave consideration. All he could say at present was that the bill as it stood made the increased duties permanent.

THE GOVERNMENT OF NAPLES AND GARIBOLDI.

Mr. GRIFFITH asked the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs whether any proposition had been made to her Majesty's Government by the Special Envoy of the Neapolitan Government lately arrived here that the English Government should join with the other Powers in imposing and enforcing, by the means at their command, an armistice for six months between the Neapolitan Government and the Sicilian Government under Garibaldi, and whether her Majesty's Government had any intention of entertaining any such proposition?

Lord J. RUSSELL said the Special Envoy of the Neapolitan Government had informed him that the King of Sicily had sent to Garibaldi to ask him not to make any descent upon that portion of the dominions of the King of Naples which were situated on the mainland, and the Envoy had also proposed that her Majesty's Government should inter-

cede between the King of Naples and Garibaldi. The terms suggested were that the latter should not attempt to attack the territories of the King of the Two Sicilies on the mainland, and that, if necessary, England and France should use force to compel Garibaldi to comply with the demand. Her Majesty's Government had been willing to listen to the terms at first proposed, but those he had just mentioned they at once refused to accede to.

EUROPEAN FORCES (INDIA) BILL.

On the order of the day for going into Committee on the European Forces (India) Bill.

Mr. HENNESSY moved a resolution to the effect that it should be an instruction to the Committee that the half of all vacancies to be filled up among the officers in the army of India should be allotted to the orphan sons of officers and civil servants who had served in India, and that the other half should be thrown open to competition under certain restrictions.

A long discussion ensued, when the motion was negatived by a majority of 73 to 15.

The discussion of the main question occupied the remainder of the evening.

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES.

The history of the Heirs Apparent to the English Crown has always been interesting to the nation. From the days when the first Edward presented his infant son to the people at Carnarvon Castle down to our own time there has never been wanting a large share of popular enthusiasm on behalf of the youthful Prince Albert, one day, perhaps, to become the Sovereign. Yet there have been too many instances in which the youth who might have become the true leaders of the people have well nigh alienated both the affection and respect of even their most devoted adherents by a profligacy and indifference to that high calling which properly belonged to their station.

It may be well believed that, having had before them the example of position and influence used as much for the gratification of debauchery as for any purpose which could tend to strengthen the popular regard—of wealth, the gift of the nation, squandered in low riot or in more refined folly—the people of England feel all the complacency which can be afforded by the knowledge that a Queen distinguished alike by the purity of her Court and the love of her subjects has been blessed with a son who seems to be endowed with the same qualifications which have already secured the affection of a great people. The history of the Prince of Wales has yet to be written. At present he has been only pursuing those studies which are necessary to fit him for the high station he is likely to fulfil; the results of these studies can only be seen in action, and his life of action has scarcely yet commenced.

At present a few lines may tell all that he has done. His Royal Highness Albert Edward Prince of Wales, Duke of Saxony, Prince of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, Duke of Cornwall and Rothesay, Earl of Chester, Carrick, and Dublin, Baron Renfrew, and Lord of the Isles, &c., and Heir Apparent to the throne of England, was born at Buckingham Palace on the 9th of November, 1841.

Conducted under the immediate superintendence of her Majesty, the education of the young Prince has been intrusted to tutors who were chosen for their ability and integrity. On the 9th of November, 1858, his Royal Highness received what may be considered the first recognition of his having attained early manhood by being appointed a Colonel in the Army, and immediately afterwards was endowed with his hereditary honour of a Knight of the Garter.

After this it was determined that his Royal Highness should pursue his studies at Rome, and, after visiting his sister at Berlin, he set out for Italy. It was on the outset of this journey that he presented colours to the 100th, or Prince of Wales's Royal Canadian, Regiment of Foot, stationed at Shorncliffe, and accompanied the presentation with a short but effective speech, thus gracefully initiating and confirming a connection with the proudest of our colonial possessions.

In January, 1859, having reached Rome, the Prince paid a visit to the Pope, which was conducted without ceremony, but during which the conversation was confined to ordinary topics and complimentary remarks.

During the remainder of his stay in Rome the Prince was occupied in making excursions to all the interesting objects of the city and in a quiet course of study. His stay was, however, shortened by the outbreak of the Italian war, and he returned to England by way of Spain and Portugal. A brief preliminary sojourn of his Royal Highness at the University of Edinburgh led to his formal introduction as a member of Christchurch College, at the University of Oxford, where the attention of the Prince to his studies, and his careful obedience and submission to the ordinary regulations of collegiate instruction, afforded a worthy example, which was further enhanced by the conduct of the youthful Prince while in *statu pupillari*.

His Royal Highness returned from residence in the University after a brief period, carrying with him the esteem and regard of the young noblemen and gentlemen with whom he had associated, as well as the esteem and respect of his tutors and the higher dignitaries of the establishment.

The first appearance of his Royal Highness on any public occasion was at the review of the volunteers by her Majesty in Hyde Park, where his presence was greeted with loud acclamations. This was followed by his Royal Highness taking the initiative in the foundation of a school of art for benevolent purposes, on the site of the late Vauxhall Gardens, in which a remarkably sensible and feeling, not to say eloquent, speech from his Royal Highness duly inaugurated his career on that path of benevolence and sympathy with progress in mental culture which has rendered his Royal father so much admired and beloved.

His Royal Highness is now on his way to Canada, and thence to the United States. The mission of the Prince of Wales to the British Provinces has been already explained in our columns. What may be looked for from his visit to the United States cannot be better set forth than in the following correspondence:—

PRESIDENT BUCHANAN TO QUEEN VICTORIA.

Washington, June 4, 1860.

To her Majesty Queen Victoria.—I have learned from the public journals that the Prince of Wales is about to visit your Majesty's North American dominions. Should it be the intention of his Royal Highness to extend his visit to the United States I need not say how happy I should be to give him a cordial welcome to Washington. You may be well assured that everywhere in this country he will be greeted by the American people in such a manner as cannot fail to prove gratifying to your Majesty. In this they will manifest their deep sense of your domestic virtues as well as their convictions of your merits as a wise, patriotic, and Constitutional Sovereign.

Your Majesty's most obedient servant,

JAMES BUCHANAN.

QUEEN VICTORIA TO PRESIDENT BUCHANAN.

Buckingham Palace, June 22, 1860.

My Good Friend,—I have been much gratified at the feelings which prompted you to write to me, inviting the Prince of Wales to come to Washington. He intends to return from Canada through the United States; and it will give him great pleasure to have an opportunity of testifying to you in person that these feelings are fully reciprocated by him. He will thus be able, at the same time, to mark the respect which he entertains for the chief magistrate of a great and friendly State and kindred nation.

The Prince of Wales will drop all Royal state on leaving my dominions, and travel under the name of Lord Renfrew, as he has done when travelling on the Continent of Europe.

The Prince Consort wishes to be kindly remembered to you.

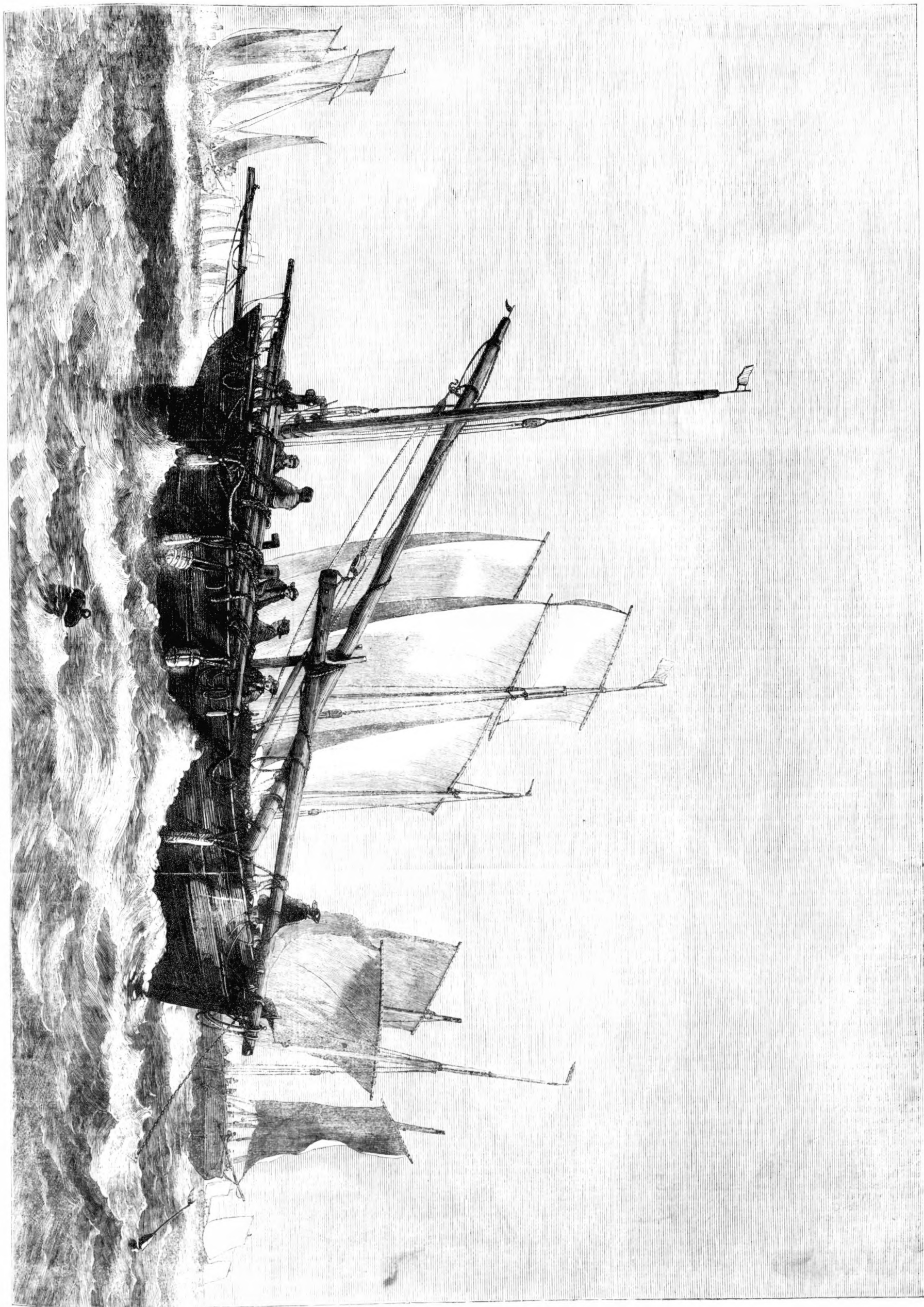
I remain, ever your good friend,

VICTORIA R.

DRAMATIC COLLEGE FANCY FAIR.—A fête and fancy fair in aid of the funds of the Royal Dramatic College was held at the Crystal Palace on Saturday, and subsequent days of the present week. The stalls were established in the transept, on the garden side; and, though comparatively few in number, presented the most lively appearance. The vogue they obtained was attributable certainly far more to the fascinations of the ladies presiding over them than to the intrinsic value or variety of the articles sold. In the concert-room "Aunt Sally" held court, under the presidency of Mr. F. Matthews, Mr. J. Clark, Mr. Compson, Mr. Widdicombe, and other popular actors. Here, too, Mr. Paul Hedford appeared as the owner of a "cheap jawn," assisted by Mr. J. L. and Mr. T. Toole. Mr. Buckstone and Mr. Rogers, appropriately disguised as exalted lords, numbers of sapientes for amusement to enter their "Bank of Mystery." Mr. Toole had a raree-show, representing nothing but, accompanied by the recitation of a most thrilling and heart-rending melodrama. There were also concerts and the music of several excellent bands.



HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES — FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY JOHN WATKINS.



2017年12月15日，星期五，晴。

MACKEREL-FISHING.

Just such a scene as that represented in our Engraving on the previous page is daily seen by the hundreds of City folk who at this season of the year crowd Hastings and Brighton in search of health and pleasant change from the toils and cares of town life. Brighton and Hastings have always been celebrated for their fishermen, and from these places by far the greatest number of luggers are engaged in mackerel-fishing. The season lasts from January to July, but it is during the months of May and June, when the fish approach the shores in vast shoals for the purpose of spawning, that such large numbers are taken. The most common mode in which the fishing is carried on is by means of long nets, called *driftnets*, which often extend for nearly a mile in length, descending into the water to a depth of about twenty feet. These nets are let down into the water at nightfall, and are left in position all night suspended to a stout rope, which is supported at one extremity by a large buoy, while the other is attached to the lugger. The meshes of the net are just large enough to allow the fish to pass through as far as the pectoral fins; so that, when they have advanced thus far, they are held suspended in the net without the power of escaping, either by retracing their course or pressing the thick part of their bodies through the obstacle. In the morning the nets are hauled in, and the fish detached from them. In this manner vast quantities of mackerel are taken. The fish is also caught by surrounding the shoals with a large, deep net, termed a *seice*, which is afterwards closed at the bottom and hauled to the shore. The mackerel is exceedingly voracious, feeding principally upon small fishes and the fry of larger species. The ordinary size of those brought to market is from fourteen to sixteen inches, with a weight of from one-and-a-half to two pounds; but they are said occasionally to attain a length of twenty inches. Mackerel are brought in great abundance to Billingsgate during May and June by fast-sailing luggers, which collect the takings of the fishing-boats, and hasten on with the cargo to the London market while the boats pursue their occupation. During a favourable season as many as 100,000 fish have been sold in Billingsgate during a week. Formerly it was a common practice to sell the fish by a kind of auction on the beach to traders whose success in the speculation depended mainly upon their quickness in bringing them by land conveyance to London. From Brighton and Hastings many thousands are now brought by rail, and the general desire to obtain this fish in perfection led to the well-known relaxation of our laws in reference to Sunday trading, which permits the open hawking about of mackerel on that day, a practice which was, and we believe is still, punishable with regard to any other fish.

With the ILLUSTRATED TIMES of Saturday, July 7, was issued
A Large and most Beautifully-engraved

MAP OF EUROPE

Size, three feet six inches by three feet; uniform with the Maps of London and England and Wales already published in connection with this Journal. A limited number of copies still remain on hand. The price, including the number of the ILLUSTRATED TIMES, is 6d., or free by post for eight stamps. 2, Catherine-street, Strand, W.C.

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ILLUSTRATED TIMES.

SATURDAY, JULY 28, 1860.

GARIBALDI.

EUROPE is once more watching with intense interest the movements of the most enterprising Italian of the age. Garibaldi is again on the wing, leaving Sicily free behind him, and bearing the hope of freedom to the Continent. All speculation on the issue must as yet be vague and uncertain in the extreme. But it is impossible to refrain from calculating the probabilities and giving utterance to the sentiments everywhere entertained regarding them in Britain.

Judging from recent events in Naples, the news of Garibaldi's landing on the mainland will, probably, be the signal for a revolution there. On previous occasions the Royal family have generally triumphed, either by concessions or by the unscrupulous employment of a brutal rabble and brutal soldiery. But, as regards the first, we have already seen a "Constitution" received with distrust though privately encouraged by great Powers, the agitation of Italy for a year back having reached a point when commonplace methods of conciliation will not do. As to force, the Government has great advantages (for Bomba was sagacious in his bad way) in acting against the town. But the present King does not seem to possess the tyrannical vigour of his father. The army is not sound in its loyalty, and must be discouraged by the shameful failure of the Royal arms in Sicily. We may expect, therefore, as soon as Garibaldi commences his advance, a Neapolitan revolution of the old stamp, and a flight of the King. There is no hazard, we think, in a prediction like this; and we ought to be prepared to suggest a course of action for England in such a contingency. A vacancy of the Neapolitan crown will be the greatest event that has happened since the French Emperor commenced his Italian agitation last year; and, by-the-way, we should always remember that Garibaldi's success is the logical result of the French Emperor's policy. We have our opinion as to the motives of the two men; but it is certain that the one man's career has been made possible by that of the other.

It follows that his Majesty of France must be held responsible for Garibaldi getting fair play. Not only is he bound in honour not to "intervene" himself, but it is his moral duty to discourage other intervention. Unquestionably, the absolute Powers everywhere will be startled by an event which destroys the principle of legitimacy, and indirectly threatens them all. But few Governments, we fancy, will venture to maintain the doctrine that deliberate crime must be tolerated in Naples for fear of commotion in other kingdoms. Such selfishness would be too much, and would amount to a complicity with tyranny difficult to avow. We are especially anxious that the German Governments should act wisely and liberally in the approaching crisis. Some time since Prussia was understood to intimate dissatisfaction, for instance, with the Sardinian policy. Now, nothing could do more harm to that intimate friendliness which ought to exist between Prussia and Britain than any Prussian action in that direction. Let the Court of Naples bear its own penalties. It had warning enough, and would take none. It is true that Sardinia is likely to profit by the calamities of its neighbour, and that the aggrandisement of that house seems to be a necessary accompaniment of the Italian movement. But, not to mention that the Hohenzollern prospered just in the

same way (by producing men of character, and seizing political advantages at the proper moment), we must contend that Sardinia has earned her wages. She suffered before she triumphed, and she suffered long; nor can we allow that in the matter of Garibaldi she has done anything unfair or improper. Garibaldi's expedition is one of those great movements which happen rarely in the world, and are not to be judged of by ordinary standards. Besides, there is a point of great importance which ought not to be overlooked by Conservative statesmen. Garibaldi is a monarchist, and while Sardinia triumphs it is the monarchical principle that triumphs in Italy. Some years back the cause of Italian freedom would have been inevitably the cause also of republicanism—a banner under which, in these ages, freedom is never safe.

SAVINGS AND DOINGS.

GENERAL LORD CLYDE, G.C.B., is at Osborne, on a visit to her Majesty.

THE COURT DE PARIS AND THE DUKE DE CHARTRES, who were travelling in Syria at the moment of the recent outbreak, are said only to have saved their lives by travelling rapidly through the mountains of Beyrout.

SPAIN (now that she has been gazetted as a first-class granee in Europe) denies, through official journals, that her claim in right of Bourbonism to the reversion of Sicily has not the support of the French Emperor. Is she prepared to pay for it by cession of the Balearic Islands to France?

SOME GENTLEMEN returning by omnibus from the scene of the late sham fight at Cheshurst met with an awkward accident. The gateway of the Hall Inn at Dartford happens to be rather low, and while passing under it the heads of the gentlemen seated on the "knickerbocker" came into collision with the stone roof, and hurt some of them seriously.

The *Mondieur* of Brussels promulgates the law for abolishing the octroi duties in Belgium, and which came into operation on Saturday last.

THE INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF CHEMISTS, which was to have been held last spring, is definitively fixed to meet at Karlsruhe on the 3rd of September. Letters of invitation have been addressed to all eminent chemists, and especially to professors of chemistry in public schools and colleges.

The *Enosis*, a journal published in the Island of Syra, states that Colonel Karatasos, who fought in the Greek war of independence, is engaged in visiting all the islands of the Archipelago, with a view to form a Legion of Greek volunteers, whom he intends taking over to Sicily himself, in aid of the insurrection. It adds that the Greek Government has vainly endeavoured to prevent this expedition.

A FURTHER SUM OF A HUNDRED GUINEAS has been granted by the Corporation of London towards the funds of the Hospital for Diseases of the Chest, Victoria Park.

LORD ELPHINSTONE, once Governor of Madras, and afterwards of Bombay, died on the 19th inst., aged fifty-three.

DR. JAMES R. BALLANTYNE, of the College of Bonar, the eminent Sanscrit scholar, and candidate for the Boden Professorship at Oxford, has received the appointment of Librarian at the East India House, vacant through the death of Professor H. H. Wilson.

AT THE LAST EXAMINATION OF CANDIDATES for direct commissions at Chelsea, out of 403 candidates, only about sixty were found to fulfil the requirements of the examiners.

THE BELGIAN ART EXHIBITION—which is much encouraged by the Government, and open to foreigners as well as Belgians—commenced at Brussels, on the 15th of August next.

THE ENTIREMENT OF THE MOST REV. DR. LONGLEY, Lord Archbishop of the province of York, took place in York Cathedral on the 20th.

AN OPERA COMPANY, headed by Mme. Rudersdorf, has set forth to sing and play in the Channel Islands.

THE COMMUNE OF NICOSIA, in Sicily, has voted the erection of a statue to King Victor Emmanuel, and of another to General Garibaldi.

A CONFERENCE OF MORMONS was held on Sunday in St. George's Hall, Southwark. The speeches, as might be expected, were of a very singular character.

M. KOSSUTH AND HIS FAMILY have arrived in Paris.

MR. HAWKINS has tendered his resignation as Keeper of the Department of Antiquities in the British Museum. Great changes are likely to take place in the administration of the various branches of our antiquarian collections.

ALBERTO MARIO has just been appointed by Garibaldi head of the National College of Palermo.

THE FRENCH ACADEMY at its last sitting fixed as the subject of the prize of poetry for the year 1861 the Isthmus of Suez.

THE CHURCHWARDENS of Woolwich have issued a notice to the effect that, in consequence of church rates having been raised during the past two years, they are compelled to appeal to the inhabitants for voluntary contributions to pay for the necessary repairs of the parish church.

THE PRINCESS CLOTHILDE promises to augment the number of the French Imperial family.

THE HERRING AND MACKEREL FISHERIES have virtually closed off the east coast. On the whole, the season has been a gloomy and unprofitable one to those concerned. The amount subscribed on behalf of the widows and orphans of the poor fellows lost in the May gale has reached the handsome sum of £7500.

LOLA MONTES recently had a paralytic stroke, which deprived her of speech and motion.

THE SPANISH SOLDIERS AT TANGIER are deserting to the Moors.

THE QUESTION OF A GLASS COVERING for the ROYAL EXCHANGE, to protect the merchants from the weather, is still receiving attention.

ACCOUNTS FROM ICELAND give an account of an eruption (after thirty-nine years' repose) of the volcano called the Retiugia of the Myrdalejokul mountains.

SURGEON'S SERMONS, some of which contain severe remarks on the slave institutions of the United States, were lately burnt in the Virginia Court-house.

THE MORMONS contemplate emigrating from Utah to one of the East India Islands, we hear.

CHATEAUBRIAND'S SISTER, the Countess de Marigny, whose hundredth birthday was noticed some few weeks ago as having made a sensation at Drury, died at that place on the 17th instant.

IN THE EXPECTED RETIREMENT of MR. WISE from the representation of Stafford three candidates have offered themselves—Lord Sandon, Mr. Alderman Sney, and Mr. W. Chadwick. Mr. Pitt will retire from Exeter at the next election. The Conservatives have already nominated his successor in Major Porter, of the Royal Engineers, and the Liberals in Mr. Alfred S. Young, brother to the member for Poole.

THE TOTAL NUMBER OF MEN belonging to the European troops in India who have taken their discharge since 1858, in consequence of being refused bounty, and who were sent to the United Kingdom, was 10,116. The total number of such men re-embarked since their return to England is 2309.

VICK-CHANCELLOR KINDERSLEY has refused the motion made against the directors of the Union Bank.

THE *Leinster*, the first of the four new packets to run between Holyhead and Kingstown, made her trial-trip to the North on Saturday. Her performance was perfectly satisfactory, the average speed being sixteen and a quarter knots per hour. Her engines are enormously strong, and the paddle-wheels twenty-seven feet in diameter.

A DISCOVERY OF GOLD has taken place at Halifax, Nova Scotia. The quality of the metal is, however, more satisfactory than the quantity, and the rush to the new "gold-fields" has led to a considerable disappointment.

COLONEL LA MASA, Garibaldi's agent, has left Turin for England. The Marquis La Greca, Envoy Extraordinary of the King of the Two Sicilies, has left Paris for London.

A BANQUET TO LORD CLYDE will on Tuesday be given at the United Service Club. The Duke of Cambridge will preside.

THE HARVEST IN FRANCE, whether of wine or corn, is likely to prove very abundant. It is even said to surpass that of 1858.

FROM A LIST OF 1000 MARRIAGES in PARIS, taken from the registers of the 1st Civil, it appears that in 52 of them the bride was between 15 and 16; in 100, from 16 to 17; 219, from 18 to 19; 232, 20 to 21; 165, 22 to 23; 103, 24 to 25; 60, 26 to 27; 45, 28 to 29; 18, 30 to 31; 11, 32 to 33; 8, 34 to 35; 2, 36 to 37; and one from 38 to 39.

LIEUT.-GENERAL WENYSS died last week at Bath. The deceased officer had been sixty years in the Army, and his commission as Ensign dated from 1800. He accompanied the Walcheren expedition in 1809, and served through the Peninsular war.

THE PREMISES OF MESSRS. WHITE BROTHERS, lace-manufacturers, Water-gate, Nottingham, were almost entirely destroyed by fire on Sunday last. Goods were consumed or damaged to the amount of from £5000 to £6000.

THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

MR. LEATHAM is convicted, but not sentenced. He will not be brought up for sentence until next term. Meanwhile he is at large untried. It has been reported that he will fly the country; but such a step would be supremely absurd, for if he were to do that, and not answer when called up to receive sentence, he would be outlawed; and, besides, there is a law point referred, which in the opinion of many eminent lawyers will go in his favour; and in that case he will, of course, escape sentence. The Corrupt Practices Act of 1851 provides that "no one shall be liable to any penalty or forfeiture hereby enacted unless some prosecution, action, or suit for the offence committed shall be commenced against such person within the space of one year next after such offence against the Act shall have been committed." And the point to be argued is whether this prosecution is the prosecution alluded to in the Act. To unsophisticated people it would seem to be so; and the legal advisers of Mr. Leatham confidently affirm that it is so. The law officers of the Crown, however, join issue with them. The principal witness against Charlesworth is seriously, and some say dangerously, ill. If this man should die it is said that the prosecution will fail. What the sentence against Mr. Leatham will be, if the conviction should stand, no one has ventured to guess—perhaps only a short imprisonment; but whether his imprisonment be long or short the punishment must be severe to a man in his position. Indeed, if he should escape imprisonment altogether, he cannot escape punishment: that has already begun, and can only cease with life. Still, however we may pity Mr. Leatham, all must allow that the punishment is just; and that to prosecute him, saving the legal point alluded to, was a right step, for it is absurd to make laws if they are to remain a dead letter. Besides, prosecutions ending in imprisonment seem to be our last resource to stop bribery at elections. All other means have failed. Loss of seat, accompanied by heavy costs, has not had the slightest effect; perhaps after two or three gentlemen of position in society shall have been incarcerated in a prison (bribery may come to be thought ungentlemanly, and then the plague may be stayed. At present no man loses caste because he has been convicted of bribery. He may be deemed a fool for being found out, but not a criminal for bribing. The bribed is a rascal, but the briber loses no caste. And yet, if we think of it, the man who bribes is also bribed. The bribe which dazzles and corrupts him is the honour of a seat in Parliament. This, however, is not a doctrine believed in by the upper classes.

Sir George Lewis on Monday hinted that probably the House would sit on for six weeks longer; and, seeing the business that yet remains to be cleared off—the Civil Service Estimates, the Indian Army Bill, the Defence Question, the Customs Duty on Paper, and other items of the Budget and Treaty, the Indian Budget, &c., &c.—it is probable that the Session will extend to the first week in September. We are now on the verge of August, and only three votes of the Civil Service Estimates have been taken. Such a position of affairs is not remembered by the oldest member in the House. The Customs Duties on Paper Question will be stoutly contested unless the Government should modify its proposition. There is a rumour that it is prepared to do this, but it is not traceable to any authentic source. Meanwhile, both parties are energetically canvassing for support, and deluging the House with statements for and against the proposition. Lord Palmerston's warlike speech is said to have caused great dismay in the City. The funds, however, have not declined; perhaps this may be owing to the fact that they had been sedulously kept down in the expectation that the Premier would require a loan of nine millions for the defence. The Stock Exchange people confidently expected a loan, and were greatly disappointed when it was announced that no loan would be required.

The Right Hon. John Wynn has retired from Sligo on account of ill health, which has kept him away from Parliament for two Sessions. A new writ has been ordered, and the well-known Pat Somers is again in the field. In 1857 Pat got in, beating Wynn by a majority of one; but in 1859 Fortune turned her wheel, and Wynn beat Pat by 101. There are but 361 electors in the borough.

THE LITERARY LOUNGER.

ALTHOUGH the London season is rapidly coming to a close, that stagnation in literary matter, which is usually simultaneous with it does not seem as yet to have fallen upon us. On the contrary, there is still a considerable amount of activity in the book world. If rumour may be credited we may shortly look for the publication of Mr. Murray's long-promised edition of Pope's works, that edition which some years ago was hinted at as likely to be published under the superintendence of Mr. J. Wilson Croker, assisted by Mr. Peter Cunningham. But Mr. Croker is dead, and Mr. Cunningham's state of health is such as to preclude him from any arduous literary duties, so that the work has been put into other hands, and a most accomplished editor has been found in the person of the Rev. Whitwell Elwin. Under this gentleman's supervision, then, the book will be published, and will be found, it is understood, to comprise an extraordinary number of new letters, and other interesting biographical matter which has not yet seen the light. Mr. Elwin has for some years been the editor of the *Quarterly Review*; but, it is said, is about to give up that post. His successor has not yet been named. The new edition of Addison's works, to form part of Mr. Murray's celebrated series of British Classics, will also be prepared by Mr. Elwin.

Mr. Henry Mayhew is engaged on a new compilation, in a cheap and popular form, of "The Life of Benjamin Franklin." Mr. Sutherland Edwards (whose experiences as special correspondent at Moscow during the coronation of the present Emperor were so agreeably communicated to the readers of this Journal) has in preparation a book called "The Russians at Home." Mr. Edward Mayhew, one of the most skilled veterinarians of the day, has just published a valuable work on the management of the horse; and Mr. John Cruden Hotten, the well-known bookseller of Piccadilly, has translated, and is about to issue, a very curious book, said to have been originally edited by Martin Luther, entitled "The Book of Vagabonds and Beggars," with a vocabulary of their language.

In the saleroom of Messrs. Puttick and Simpson a collection of books has just been brought to the hammer, which created a more than ordinary degree of interest. These volumes were the property of an American collector—one Mr. Edward Crowninshield, of Boston, U.S., and have fetched high prices. Notably among them were one volume of Audubon's work on the Birds of America, which sold for £19; the "Epistola Cristofori Columbi," consisting of four leaves only, and said to be the first printed document relating to America, which realised £30 10s.; and a copy of Halm's "Collection of Early Travels in the East," ranging from 1593 to 1650, which fetched £335.

The public, and especially that portion of it which has a regard for art and artistic decoration, will rejoice to see that a vote of a large sum of money for the building in which to house that monstrosity the funeral car of the late Duke of Wellington has been rejected by the House. There was but little pleading in its favour, but assuredly he who placed his countrymen in the most ridiculous light was the speaker, who informed the Senate that the abortion was the product of the genius of our own School of Design.

All frequenters of the Royal Academy Exhibition will regret to hear of the very serious illness of Mr. John Luard, whose pictures exhibited in 1857-58 stamped him as one of the first among our rising artists.

THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

THE ZOUAVES who established the celebrated *Théâtre d'Inkerman* during the Crimean War, and who have since been acting in the principal Continental cities, made their appearance at the Princess' on Monday night. They played in two little pieces—"Militaire et Pensionnaire" and "La Corde Sensible," and their acting was thoroughly artistic and excellent, not the slightest trace of the amateur being observable. The most astonishing, but certainly the least pleasing, portion of the performance is the assumption of the female character by these rough soldiers.

Richardson will be the star attraction at the Princess' next season.

M. Flechter, the original jeune premier in the "Dame aux Camellias," "Filles des Marbre," &c., and who is reported to speak English excellently, is engaged for the principal characters.

The performance at DICKY LANE on Wednesday, for the benefit of the family of the late Mr. R. Brough, was, in all respects, a success. The noticeable points in the evening's amusement were Mr. L. B. Langham's recitation of "Godiva," Mr. Sala's address, written and spoken by himself; Mr. Shirley Brooks' prologue to "The Enchanted Isle;" the performance of the Savage Club amateurs; and the debut of Miss Fanny Stirling.

Mr. George Vining leaves the OLYMPIC and transfers his services to the LYCEUM. Miss L. Keeley and Mr. F. Robinson go to the Olympic.

THE THEORY AND PRACTICE OF THE RIFLE, ACCORDING TO THE LATEST AND MOST APPROVED SYSTEMS.

(Continued from page 46.)

In match-shooting, where extreme accuracy is required, there can be no doubt that the hair-trigger possesses immense advantages, the pull of the trigger in very many instances causing the barrel to diverge from the line of aim; but it is so delicate an action that it can be used with safety only by very experienced hands; and for military service it can never, under any circumstances, be brought into use. The principle of the hair-trigger is to make a spring do the work of the finger; the spring being set beforehand, so that, when it is desirable to fire, it is only necessary to detach the spring, and it strikes the *sear*. When we fire a gun we do not take a hammer in our hand and strike the percussion-cap; we draw up the hammer of the lock to the full bend, and the mainspring exerts the required force; and so with the hair-trigger. We first set its spring, and, when we wish to fire, the spring releases the tumbler, and discharges the gun. With a single hair-trigger—which is the usual one, and can be used either with or without the hair—to set it it is merely pressed forward until it locks into a catch. It can with equal facility be unset again, and used as a common trigger. We, however, by no means recommend their adoption, because, putting aside any idea of danger, their touch is so extraordinarily light that even in target practice it requires a deal of care and immense practice to prevent the gun going off before the aim is quite fixed. We shall now proceed to describe, with their attributes, the several kinds of

RIFLE PROJECTILES.

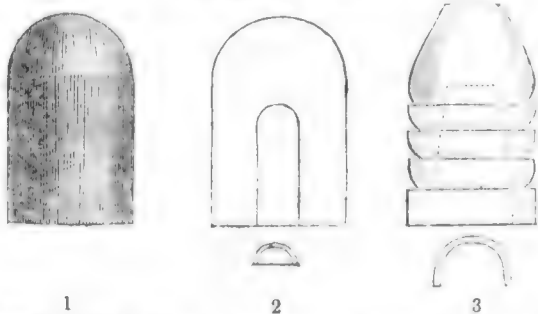
There seems at all times to have been a hazy idea that the use of the spherical bullet was a drawback to the perfect utilisation of the rifle. The object of rifling the barrel, as we have stated, was that the soft lead, by being driven into the grooves, should lessen the windage, and at the same time should receive the peculiar spin at the moment of leaving the muzzle which has always been considered essential to the even flight of a bullet. To effect this object the ball was formerly made larger than the bore, and the somewhat rude and unscientific method was adopted of driving it in with a mallet. This, in addition to the trouble attending it, completely prevented riflemen from loading on the march, and the noise occasioned by the operation was at all times likely to betray their whereabouts when loading in ambush. In addition to this objection, spherical bullets, having their seat of gravity situated in their centre, describe a double rotatory motion during their flight, so that it is quite uncertain whether the end that first left the barrel strikes the target or not. This circumstance may at first sight appear unimportant; but unless a projectile sustains a sailing motion while spinning on a single axis it will, instead of preserving a modification of the parabolic curve during its flight, start from its line of trajectory, and, by forming short abrupt angles, cause great uncertainty of firing.

Robins saw this difficulty, but he never appears to have contemplated the idea of a bullet that should enter the barrel freely and expand by means of the expansion of the powder. His objection was to the spherical bullet, and he tried an egg-shaped one. This, as might be expected, was an entire failure. The centre of gravity being in the larger end, that end would of necessity on leaving the muzzle take precedence; and, as its flight in that position was not calculated to cut the atmosphere, but rather to offer to it a strong counter opposition, both its velocity and its accuracy were considerably interfered with.

The next we hear of an attempt to improve the form of the bullet is from Captain Beaufoy, who more than half a century since described an elongated bullet, one and a half diameter in length, having a hemispherical cavity corresponding in shape to its counterpart at the opposite end. Of the merits of this bullet we have not a sufficiently accurate account to speak with any degree of certainty.

With respect to the adoption of an elongated bullet by M. Deligne, its peculiarities were nothing to speak of: the peculiarities of both his and M. Thouvenin's systems were more in the contrivances of the barrels than the bullets, and those we have already described. In using the elongated form of projectile Captain Deligne laid no claim to its invention, but says he took the idea from a bullet that he had either seen or heard described as having been used in Switzerland. The elongated form of bullet seems to have been from time to time introduced from a very early period. Even so far back as the time of Henry V. in 1413, elongated shot, of three or four calibres in length, were fired from small cannon. It is not improbable that at that period they were formed in imitation of the birdbolts used with the crossbows.

THE MINIE BULLET.



Without doing injustice to many it would be impossible to give the merit of inventing the elongated expansive bullet to one man: it has in reality been the invention of many. Cibrario tells us that at the end of the seventeenth century both spherical and elongated balls of lead were fired, having stone kernels placed in them for the purpose of expanding them and decreasing the windage. Those bullets seem, however, not to have answered, as their use never became general, and, indeed, Cibrario's description is all we ever heard of them.

Mr. Greener, an eminent English gunmaker and author on gunnery, states that he is the perfecter of the expansive bullet, that he offered the invention to the English Government in 1835, and had it rejected, and that Captain Minié borrowed the idea from him. That Mr. Greener did produce at the time he mentions an expansive bullet we happen to know, and also that, except in a few particulars, it very much resembled Mr. Minié's. Mr. Greener's bullet was an oblong ball of lead, a diameter and a half in length, having a perforation extending through two-thirds of it. An iron plug of a conical shape was slightly inserted into this perforation, and the gun loaded with it. When the explosion took place this plug was driven home into the lead, and, by expanding its outer surface, the projectile came out of the gun fitting as tight as possible, and a line of flight was supposed to be given to it of corresponding accuracy. Captain Minié, in describing his bullet, says, "that on fire being communicated to the charge the gases developed act powerfully on the little iron cup, and cause it to penetrate deeper into the bottom of the ball, and in consequence effect the forcing of the latter." The following cuts represent the original and the improved Minié bullet:—

Fig. 1 is the external appearance of the old minnie. Fig. 2, a section of it showing the hollow and cup. Fig. 3 is the improved bullet, and the dotted line indicates the situation and size of the cavity.

Mr. Minié's theory was, however, not kept pace with by the practice of his bullets, as the cup was frequently driven not into but through the ball, leaving the lead in the barrel. It was then thought that the iron was superfluous, and that if the lead was hollowed out, and the bullet left to be expanded by the gases alone, it would be sufficient. That was the suggestion of Mr. Pritchett, for which he received an award of £1000 from Government. This kind of bullet not, however, proving satisfactory, the present

GOVERNMENT SERVICE BULLET

has been universally adopted in the British army. The service bullet, in its outward form, somewhat resembles the present minié. It has a hollow of rather more than half its length, and a plug of something more than half the length of the cavity, which by the expansion of the gases is driven in, thus enabling the yielding metal of the missile to fill the grooves of the barrel. The wood plugs have the advantage of not upsetting the bullet, and there is no doubt that they prevent any collapsing of its sides when leaving the barrel—the preservation of the sides of the bullet being of the greatest importance.

This preservation of the sides of the bullet is, we have no hesitation in asserting, the only use of either the cup or plug; their expanding properties we cannot comprehend on any principle of science. The Pritchett bullet, so far as expansion was concerned, answered the purpose in every respect; it entered the barrel easily, but at the moment of explosion the pressure of the air in front, and the explosion of the air behind, had the effect of dilating the cylindrical portion of the bullet, so as to make it fit the barrel tightly, in the same way that compressing an orange or an india-rubber ball at the opposite ends would widen its other diameter, and so enlarge its lateral circumference; but as there was no protecting medium like the cup or plug to maintain the form of the bullet it was likely to get out of shape, and become, in consequence, liable to irregularity in its passage after leaving the barrel.

The Government regulation bullets, in so far as mechanical beauty of form goes, are really perfect. No mode whatever of casting bullets can at all compete with the exquisite finish given by the elaborate machinery employed at the Royal Arsenal at Woolwich: a short description of it can scarcely fail to be interesting.

In no other building, perhaps, in the world is to be found assembled together such a collection of machinery. The contents of the whole building, with its miles of lathebeds and myriads of whirling, spinning-wheels above, below, and around, really, for the first few moments, almost render an unaccustomed visitor giddy.

First we have four machines for the construction of rifle bullets. Coils of solid leaden piping are hung up in each machine. These are unwound, divided into the requisite lengths, stamped into the proper form, and conveyed into boxes provided for their reception. Each machine cuts, stamps, and conveys away 7000 per hour, or very nearly 300,000 for the four machines in a day.

Notwithstanding the superiority of the mechanical construction of these bullets, they cost infinitely less than if they were cast. The wages alone for cast bullets, for 300,000 per day, would be £3000 per annum, without at all taking into consideration the thousands which would have to be rejected by the scrutineers, and recast, perhaps, several times over. Now the wages for turning out the same number of compressed bullets at the Laboratory at Woolwich would amount to about £270 per annum, and none of them would require to be rejected by the scrutineers. In the Laboratory there are also ten little machines for making boxwood plugs. These are fed with pieces of boxwood, which are converted into plugs at the rate of 30,000 in nine hours, or nearly 300,000 per day for the ten. These plugs are then pressed into the hollow in the bullet, and they are then complete.

THE DISC BULLET.

The disc bullet is an invention of Colonel Boucher. It is outwardly something of the form of the Government bullet. Its peculiarity is that the hollow is of a pyramidal form, and the base of the hollow is fitted with a thin disc or plate of iron, which at the moment of explosion is driven in, expanding the bullet. This bullet possesses many advantages, as the disc can neither be driven through or throw the bullet out of shape.

(To be continued.)

VOLUNTEER REVIEWS.—A review is to take place next month in Knowsley Park, the residence of the Earl of Derby. The directors of the London and North-Western Railway will give every facility for the conveyance of the volunteers to Hutton station, whence they will march to Knowsley. Commissioners' tents will be pitched on the review-ground, in rear of each brigade or battalion. Many other reviews on a more or less extensive scale are arranged or contemplated. The Manchester volunteers have arranged for their review to come off at Newton on the 11th of August. Lieut.-General Sir George A. Wetherall, Commander-in-Chief of the Northern and Midland Districts, will command. The members of the Ipswich Company had a field-day on Monday in the grounds of the Chantry, the residence of Sir F. Kelly, M.P. A luncheon was provided by the hon. and learned gentleman. On Saturday afternoon the Chelmsford and Brentwood Volunteer Rifle Companies were reviewed at Boreham Park, the seat of Sir John Tyrell, by Lieut.-General Sir Harry Smith. Some ball practice followed, a regimental sword and silver cup being awarded to the best shot, and the volunteers were afterwards hospitably entertained at dinner by Sir J. Tyrell. On Saturday afternoon the twelve companies forming the Birmingham Rifle Volunteer Corps were reviewed in Calthorpe Park by Lord Leigh, the Lord Lieutenant of the county. The various companies assembled at Bingley Hall, and marched to the park, where they went through a number of evolutions, which were performed with considerable precision. The 3rd West Riding of Yorkshire (Bradford) Volunteers, consisting of five companies, commanded by Major S. C. Lister, with the Eccleshall subdivision attached, were inspected on the parade-ground at the Bradford barracks last Saturday afternoon by Colonel M'Murdo, the Inspector-General.

THE INTERNATIONAL STATISTICAL CONGRESS.—The concluding meeting of the International Statistical Congress was held on Saturday. Numerous interesting reports were brought up from the various sections. In the course of the proceedings Lord Shaftesbury read a very thoughtful letter which had been addressed to him by Miss Nightingale. This lady suggested that, at the next congress, each delegate should produce carefully-prepared statistics showing the diminution of mortality and disease consequent upon the carrying out of sanitary improvements. She names several sources from which information might be derived that would prove extremely useful to the cause of social reform.

ST. GEORGE'S-IN-THE-EAST.—The notorious congregation of St. George's-in-the-East assembled in great force on Sunday, as it was generally known throughout the parish that that would be the last occasion on which the Rev. Bryan King, the Rector, would officiate in the parish church for some considerable time. The people were no doubt in the expectation that their Rector, in his sermon, as he usually preaches in the morning, would take some notice of his being about to leave them for a time, and take a sort of farewell of them, but in this they were disappointed. The Rev. Mr. Dove preached the sermon. The evening service was, as usual, pretty numerously attended, there being about 1600 persons in the church. The Rector was not present, and the people were again disappointed as to his leave-taking of them. Mr. Amphlett, who preached, was several times interrupted by coughing, and by parties in the north gallery pattering with their feet, but nothing serious occurred.

ACTIONS FOR BRIBERY.—The Wakefield and Beverley bribery cases were commenced at the York Assizes on Friday week, and the result is calculated to strike dismay into the hearts of those who consider that money is a fair weapon in a political contest. Mr. W. H. Latham, the unwashed member for Wakefield, who, it was urged by the prosecution, had expended at least £2700 in corrupting the voters of that borough at the last general election, has been found "guilty"—his offence being, of course, a misdemeanour. Sentence will, we presume, be deferred until after the trial of Mr. Charlesworth, the Conservative candidate. Two voters of Beverley, Messrs. Boyes and Taylor, have also been found "guilty." They appear to be regarded in Beverley as martyrs. The bells rang when they got back to the town, "thousands upon thousands" of people went to meet them, and the heroes, one of them the "victim" of Tory spite and Whig imbecility, were actually drawn round the town in triumph.

In the *Annuaire Diplomatique* for 1861, just published, the Duchies of Tuscany, Parma, and Modena, are no longer down in the list of independent states. Their names are not even mentioned.

Literature.

The Wife's Domain. By PHILOTHALOS. John Churchill.

MR. PHILOTHALOS, who dates from "The Brackens," tells us in the first sentence of his preface that "the contents of this volume consist of portions of a series of discourses which have been from time to time delivered at a small establishment devoted to the relief of children's maternal diseases, to the poor women who attended as patients or who brought their children for treatment." Our earnest hope, for the sake of the "poor women," is that the author has in this utterly silly and worthless book preserved only the magiloquent rubbish of his "discourses," leaving them with something a little better in their memories. To give some idea of the hopeless imbecility of the author we extract one sentence only:—"Habit," says he, on pages 11 and 12, "seriously demoralising in their tendency are often acquired by the affianced pair previous to marriage of frequenting certain places of amusement, inns where musical entertainments are provided, to which the terms of admission are the purchase of one or more stipulated quantities of intoxicating beverage; and this practice is not unfrequently continued by both husband and wife after their union." When we add to this precious sample that, on page 45, the author suggests "a glass of home-made beer, made warm and sweetened," taken at bedtime as a remedy for sleeplessness in ladies who are looking forward to being mothers, we think we have completed our picture of the silliest book we have seen for years. We can only give Mr. P. one word of reassurance. He may quite dismiss the fear, expressed in his preface, that any of the matter is "too professional for the general reader." Indeed, we cannot find any excuse for this fear, except something about the Cæsarian operation, which no "general reader" is likely to attempt.

Stray Notes on Fishing and Natural History. By CORNWALL SIMMONS. Macmillan and Co.

This, one of the least pretentious, is also one of the most agreeable books we have seen lately. It has no other noticeable quality but pleasantness; it is just the memorandum-book of a gentleman angler about birds, beasts, and fishes, containing here an anecdote, and there an observation. We have, therefore, no criticism to offer, and will simply extract a bit about

PARROTS.

A parrot belonging to some friends of mine was, generally, taken out of the room when the family assembled for prayers, for fear lest he might join irreverently in the responses. One evening, however, his presence happened to be unnoticed, and, for some time, he maintained a decorous silence; but, at length, instead of "Amen," out he came with "Cheer, boys, cheer!" On this the butler was directed to remove him, and had got as far as the door, when the bird, perhaps thinking that he had committed himself, and had better apologise, called out, "Sorry I spoke!" The parrot of a relation of mine also used, whenever he dropped anything he was eating, to say, "Pick up Bobby's crust;" being, doubtless, prompted by the same train of associations as those which led another parrot, which I knew well, invariably to say "Thank you" whenever anything is given to him. Some parrot-fanciers had agreed to meet in a year's time, when each was to show a bird for a prize—proficiency in talking to be the great criterion of merit. On the day appointed all the rest came, each duly bringing his parrot. One only appeared without his, saying that he was such a stupid bird he was quite ashamed to bring him. This excuse was held to be inadmissible, and his master accordingly went off for and returned with him. No sooner was he introduced than, looking round at the large assembly of birds, he exclaimed, "My G—! what a lot of parrots!" The prize was immediately voted to him by acclamation.

The Life and Correspondence of Charles Mathews the Elder, Comedian. By MRS. MATHEWS. A New Edition, Abridged and Condensed. By EDMUND YATES. Routledge and Co.

Although this "abridged" book would have borne, and well borne, much more abridgement, it is one which may be read through without skipping, and which, for about half its length, is full of interest. Accordingly, we warmly recommend it. It contains a score of anecdotes, any one of which is worth as some people would put it the price of the book. A tipsy Scotch laird was resisting toll at a gate which the tollkeeper's pretty daughter resolutely kept shut against him, and was abusing the lassie into the bargain. An old woman in a nightdress peeped out of the upper window, saying, "Eh, Meggie! what's the gentleman saying?" when the girl "wittily" replied, "Ah, mither! it's no the gentleman; it's the wine that speaks!" This soled the drunken man, and he paid. But the lassie's answer was something better than "witty," and deserves a wider immortality than it has the chance of. Mr. Mathews' own sketches of his early days are the best part of the book, and are full of life. It should be made as public as possible that he records an instance in which a school of two hundred boys rose as one boy and put down the use of the birch. There is a golden story of a goodnatured barber, which we will not tell here, partly because it is long, and partly because we would rather send our readers to the book itself, to laugh and cry over it. It is a capital story for a good dinner-out to tell, easily remembered—just the sort of thing that "makes the whole world kin," and (a word to the wise) draws fair eyelids down and soft hearts closer; and not the less that it is a little outré and rather intimate in its details.

Goethe in Strasbourg; a Dramatic Novelette. By H. NOEL HUMPHREYS. Saunders, Otley, and Co.

With in and without, this is one of the most charming books we have seen for a long time, and, granting all that Mr. Humphreys asks for in his "Preamble," we think it is a success. About the Frederika story in particular we ourselves have not been able to see sufficiently solid ground for building up any sort of strong opinion; but of the general doctrine that poets have a divine right to break women's hearts to get at the poetry, as we break cocoanuts to get at the milk, we have an extreme abhorrence. Nor is it a doctrine to which Goethe stands committed in this afternoon book. As to the general execution of the author's plan, we think it effective; though such phrases as "a regular brick," and such broken "lingo," as the old Frenchman's, are surely great mistakes? But let the dainty volume be bought and read, if only for the novelty of its idea, and the thoughtful intelligence of the "preamble." It is an excellent book for the drawing-room table, and sure to start conversation on points in which men and women, both, will take a lively interest.

REPORT FROM THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON MILITARY ORGANISATION.

THE above report, which has been awaited with so much interest has at length been issued.

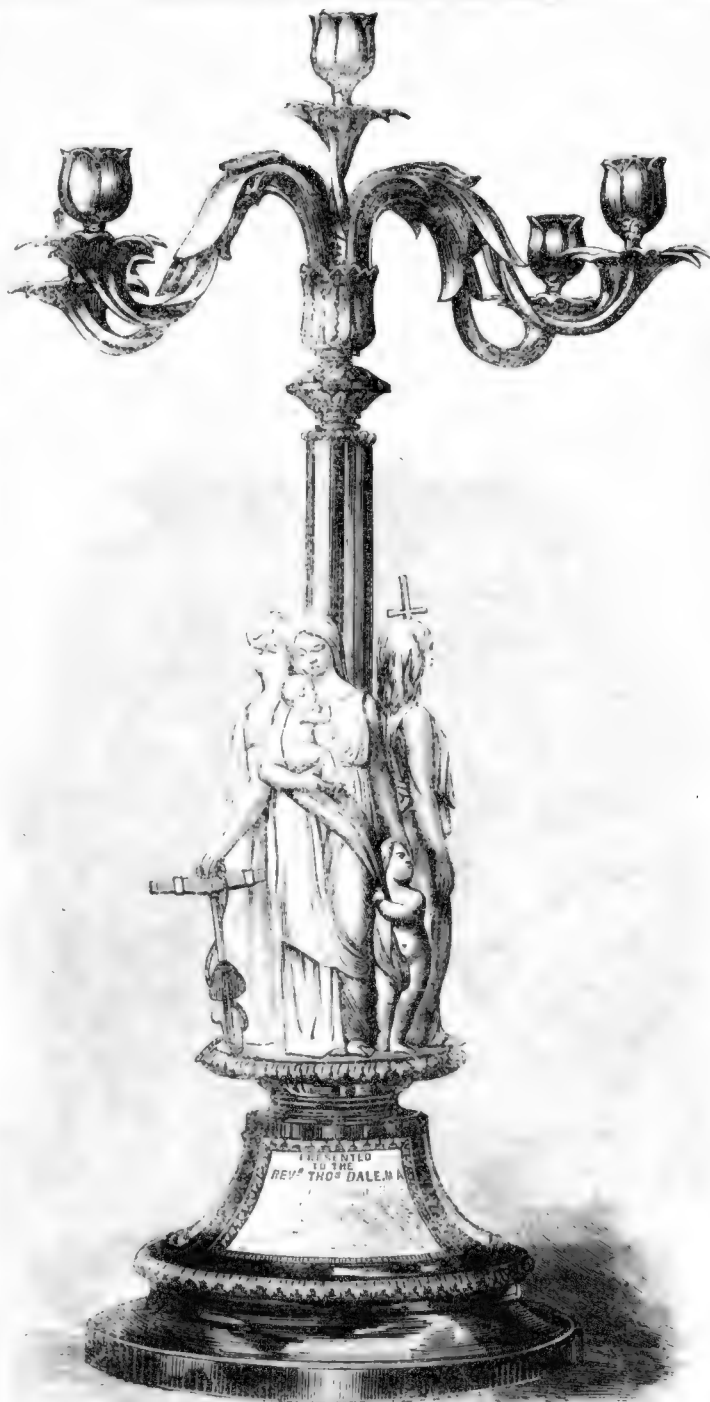
The Committee are of opinion that the document or minute drawn up and signed by Lord Liverpool points out the best and most satisfactory form for regulating the authority of the Secretary of State, and for defining the extent of the departmental functions of the Commander-in-Chief. They consider that there is public advantage in the first appointments and promotions being conducted by an officer independent of political pressure. They think it would be well if the War Office and the Horse Guards could be brought under the same roof. They do not recommend that the existing practice should be altered with respect to the three instances in which alone the Queen's pleasure is now taken by the Commander-in-Chief. The last and great question remains to be considered—How is the Army to be governed? We now quote the report:—

"Earl Grey recommends a board, with a Cabinet Minister at its head, but not the Secretary of State. He seeks to restore the supreme power to the Secretary of State for War and Colonies. This board would be a new experiment. It undoes all that has been done. It throws aside all the advantages of growing experience and improved practice, which the last five years have not failed to afford. Instead of concentrating responsibility, it redistributes it. The machinery of boards is known to be cumbersome and uncertain in its operation. It

only works well when the head of the board acts as if he alone were responsible. A board, therefore, would be a retrograde measure which your Committee cannot recommend. A council is a board in a modified form, and the same objections apply, though in a less degree. Mr. Herbert has given a scheme for reorganising the War Department. He proposes that there shall be one Commander-in-Chief, as at present, a Parliamentary under-secretary, two permanent under-secretaries, one of whom shall be a military officer, and also an assistant under-secretary. A director of 'matériel,' an officer of artillery, to superintend the manufacture of all warlike stores. An inspector-general of fortifications, an officer of engineers, as at present. A military officer to overlook the commissariat, the clothing, and all stores not called 'warlike stores,' to be called director of supplies. A director-general of the medical department, as at present, a storekeeper-general, as at present. A commissary in chief, as at present. An inspector of militia and volunteers, reporting to the Parliamentary Under Secretary. An accountant-general, having charge of the finance. The scheme thus proposed would secure an infusion of new military blood into the War Department, which would give vigour to the system and confidence to the Army. The Secretary of State would have around him professional advisers whose opinions he might consult, either separately or collectively, according to his view of the exigencies of each case. On the whole, your Committee are of opinion that this scheme proposed by Mr. Herbert has the merit of reducing change to the minimum, while it promises an increase of real efficiency. Mr. Herbert has also declared it to be his opinion, if one or more of these military heads of departments had seats in the House of Commons, the public advantage would be great. When the Secretary of State is a civilian, unaided and unsupported by military colleagues in the House of Commons, he is exposed to serious difficulties, and his administration of the Army is inadequately defended. When he speaks on military subjects his authority is questioned; when he answers professional questions, it is known that he retails the opinions of others rather than that he is pronouncing his own. His position in the House of Commons would be far different if he had by his side a colleague, a soldier of distinction, at all times ready to sustain his answers, and to uphold his authority. With reference to any difference that might arise as to the relations between the Secretary of State for War and the Commander-in-Chief, your Committee cannot do better than refer to the memorable observation of the Duke of Wellington. He thus sums up his evidence before the Commission of Military Inquiry in 1837:—"There can be no doubt that the officer at the head of the Army, if he wants to incur any expense, would naturally go to the Secretary at War, and know from him whether he has any objection to incurring the expense proposed. He must know that if it be not approved by the civil authorities of the Army, such expense would not be voted in Parliament, and will not be allowed. On the other hand, if the Secretary at War should think that any expense which was incurred ought to be discontinued, he would naturally inquire from the Commander-in-Chief whether he thought such expense might be discontinued without inconvenience to the service. That is the way in which business is generally transacted. There may be such a rule as that referred to; but I have never myself thought much of such rules; they must be departed from when the service renders a departure from them necessary. These can be but general rules, as landmarks by which the official arrangement of the service ought to be conducted. The best rule is the mutual good temper and forbearance of the parties."

TESTIMONIAL TO CANON DALE.

PERHAPS amongst the hardworking clergymen of London there is no one whose labours have been more incessant than those of Canon Dale, who has recently preached his farewell sermon, and retired to the tranquillity of a rural deanery. His farewell sermon was preached in the parish church of St. Pancras, of which parish he was Vicar for thirteen years, and where he had been so often listened to with that affectionate attention which he always commanded. But, if the labours



TESTIMONIAL PRESENTED TO THE REV. CANON DALE, LATE VICAR OF ST. PANCRAS.

of Canon Dale were incessant, they were also successful, and abundantly so; and the cause of this was not only the usefulness of the work, but also the wonderful energy of the worker. In a large parish Mr. Dale was eminently "the right man in the right place," and from the time when he commenced life firstly as a poor curate, and as a continual contributor to the fugitive religious periodicals of the day, to that whereon he retired, his work was continuous, arduous, and greatly successful. The enumeration of what he has done will show this much more forcibly than any words of ours. What his words were most know. We may now numerate some of his works—the enlargement of the old parish chapel; the erection of four new churches, St. Paul, Holy Trinity, St. Mark, and St. Matthew; the commencement of a fifth, St. Luke's; the erection of the School Church of Agar-town; the commencement and rapid progress of the Church of St. Thomas in that district. The funds of all these were found by public subscription. Two more churches, St. Anne's, Highgate-rise, and St. Mary Magdalene's, arose also through Mr. Dale's exertions, the funds being found by pious individuals; the formation of ecclesiastical districts, and in connection with these several churches, with schools and other parochial organisation; the legal constitution of districts to the previously existing Churches of St. Stephen, Camden-town, and St. John the Evangelist; the erection of a parsonage-house to the latter; the appointment of a minister and the establishment of a temporary church in the district of St. Jude; and the assignment of ecclesiastical districts in connection with St. Bartholomew's, Gray's Inn-road, and St. James's, Hampstead-road.

Any one who knows what it is to originate and carry out a public work—to preside at meetings, to prepare and make speeches, to receive deputations, to have interviews with architects, lawyers, land-surveyors, parish authorities, *id genus omne*—will readily admit that the Church of England could not have been so fast asleep as her enemies allege if she counted many such sons as Mr. Dale. Add to these works many which a good man keeps secret, and which he would blush to find fame, and we shall complete then the life of an active London Vicar for thirteen years.

Mr. Dale carries with him into his retirement the good wishes of his congregation and of the clergy of the district over which he has so well presided. Some two weeks ago a meeting was held in St. Pancras at which the testimonial which we engrave was presented; and at a dinner afterwards celebrated the friends of the Vicar had an opportunity of testifying their approbation of his works and the regret they felt at parting with him. The candelabrum, which is ornamented by three appropriate figures of Faith, Hope, and Charity, designed by E. H. Baily, R.A., has been manufactured by Messrs. Hunt and Roskell, of Bond-street, and was very much admired for its simplicity and fitness.

GEOFFROI RUDEL.

THERE is some merit nowadays in discovering a fresh, unacknowledged subject for a good picture, whether it be legendary or historical; and for this alone Mr. D. W. Winfield would deserve praise, since his "Geoffroi Rudel," of which we give an Engraving, is a representation of one of these events which, though they can claim, perhaps, too little authenticity to be accepted as a matter of pure history, have yet held in the belief of contemporary chroniclers a place which entitles them to general acceptance amongst the popular annals. This particular story is to the effect that Geoffroi Rudel, who was the Prince of Blaye and a poet to boot, had received such fair accounts of the beauty of the Countess of Tripoli that he straightway became enamoured of her—probably having, as a poet, and especially a French poet, an imagination sufficiently lively to endow her with every charm which his own taste suggested. There fell so far short of the reality, however, that when he, at last, made a voyage to pay a visit to his unknown love, and, on landing, saw her coming to meet him on the beach, he was so overcome with emotion that he expired at her feet. The scene is well calculated to form an effective picture, giving as it does an opportunity both for variety of colour and the successful grouping of the attendants of the Countess on one side, and the followers of the Prince on the other.



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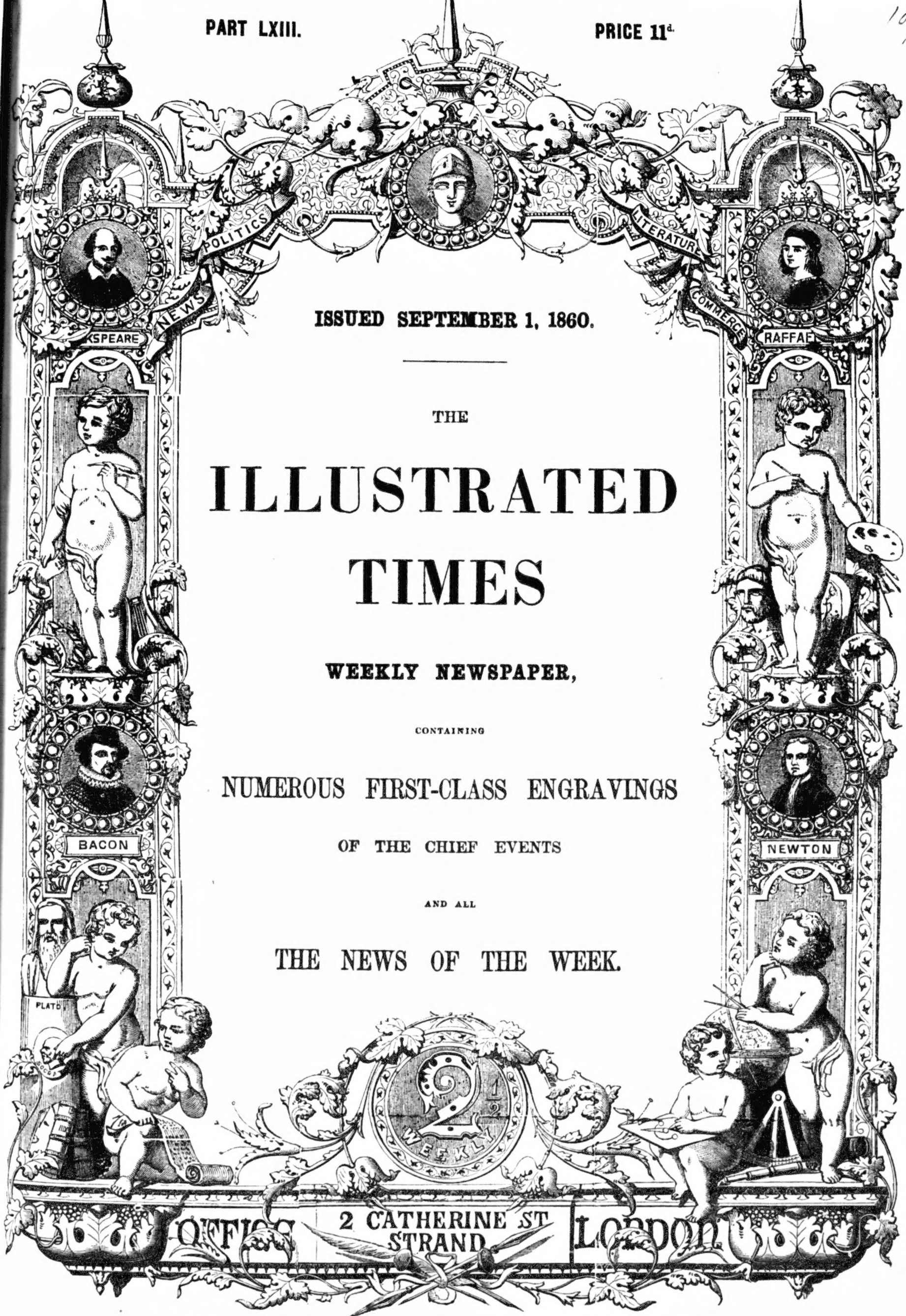
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